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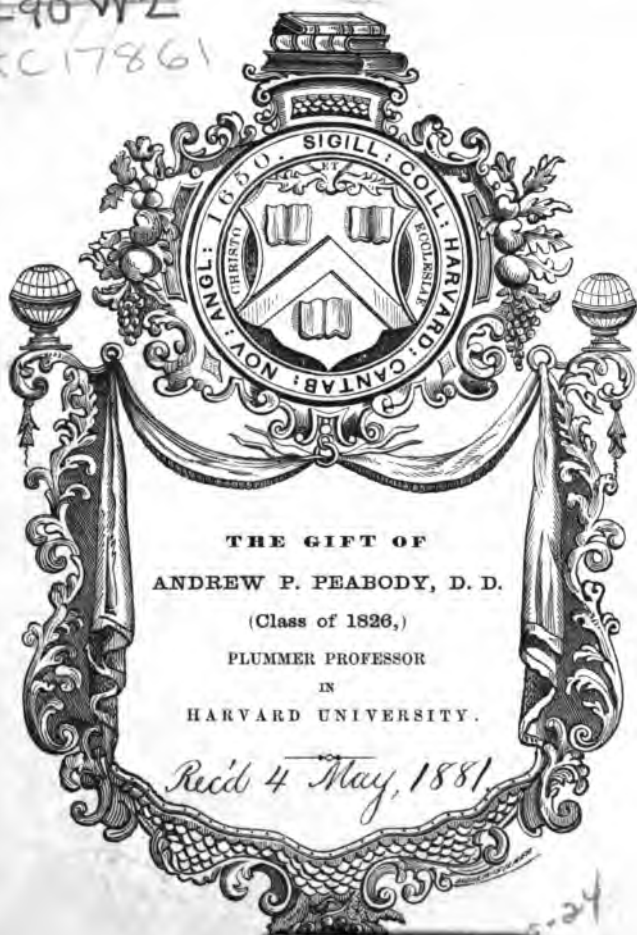
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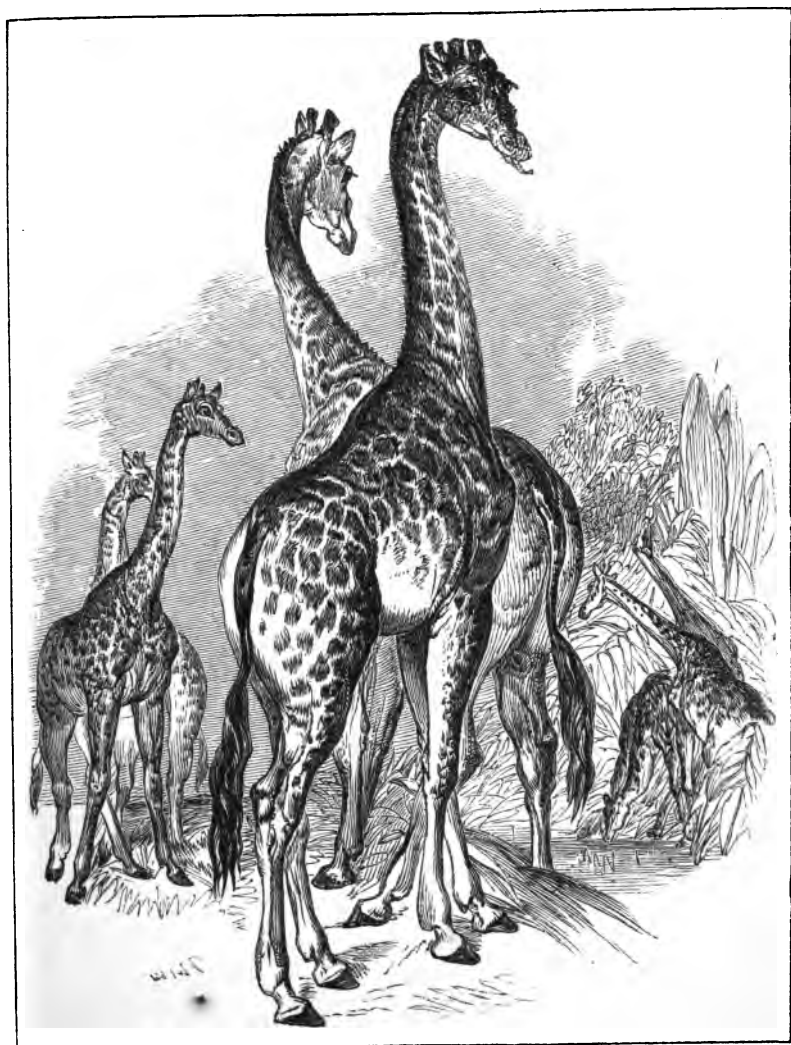


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THE
CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK
OF
QUADRUPEDS.



GIRAFFES.

THE
CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK
OF
QUADRUPEDS,
AND OTHER MAMMALIA.

Illustrated with Sixty-one Engravings by W. Harvey.

By John George Wood.



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THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK OF
QUADRUPEDS.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE FAELE-
BOOK.

THE CHILDREN'S PICTURE-BOOK OF
BIRDS.

THE CHILDREN'S BIBLE PICTURE-
BOOK.

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INTRODUCTORY.

ALL animals are ranged in certain great divisions called "Classes." The principal classes are Insects, Reptiles, Fishes, Birds, and Mammalia. There are some others besides these, but they need not be mentioned here. The object of this little book is to treat of the last and most important of these classes, the MAMMALIA.

All of you know what a Quadruped is—that it is an animal having four feet, as a Horse, a Lion, or an Elephant. But you are not so familiar with the word "Mammalia." It has a wider meaning than the term "Quadruped," and includes a great many more animals: it is derived from a Latin word, *mamma*, meaning a *breast*, and all those animals which suckle their young, and have warm blood, are called "Mammalia." We find, then, that Men, and Monkeys, and Bats, and Whales, and nearly all four-footed animals, come within this Class, as these, for some time after their birth, are nourished with milk.

The *teeth* and *feet* are those parts which chiefly distinguish one family of animals from another. In the Flesh-eating animals the molar or grinding teeth have a cutting power, while in the Grass-eating animals the grinding character prevails throughout the whole. In the Rodents, or Gnawing animals, the teeth project forward in a curve, meeting at an angle, while in the Elephant they take the form of large tusks. The Ant-eater has no teeth at all, while the Armadillo has ninety-six, and the Dolphin one hundred and fifty.

We see the same difference in the form of the feet. In some, as the Lion and Tiger, we see them furnished with *paws* divided into toes which terminate in claws; in others, as the Ox and the Horse, they are incased in *hoofs* of horn; or, as in Monkeys, they become *hands*.

In all, we perceive a wise adaptation to the mode of life the animals are designed to lead.

MAN.

MAN is placed at the head of all animals. He was God's last and noblest work. At his creation dominion was given to him, as the Bible informs us, "over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that moveth on the earth." And that power which was given to him in Paradise Man still retains. The fierce Lion flees before him, the unwieldy Elephant owns him as his master, and even the mighty Whale is made to minister to his wants. The lower animals are all "beasts that perish;" Man alone adores and worships God, and knows that he has a soul that will live forever and ever.

Man is formed to walk erect, and by this position he has free use of his *two hands*, which, guided by his reason, are sufficient to provide for all his wants, in whatever part of the world he may be placed.

FOUR-HANDED ANIMALS.

(*Quadrumana*.*)

APES, BABOONS, AND MONKEYS.

THE Monkey family are called "four-handed," because, besides having two hands like those of a man, their feet are also formed like hands, so that they may grasp the branches of trees.

Of all the lower animals, Monkeys approach nearest to Man in their form and gestures. But this resemblance, however, is not so great when we examine them more closely. We have an idea that Monkeys walk erect, like Man. But this is not the fact; they are very seldom to be seen on the ground; and when they try to walk, they double their hands with their knuckles pressed on the ground, and, bent forward, shuffle along in a most awkward manner. Monkeys never were designed to live on the ground; their home is in those extensive forests which are to be found in warm climates; and there

* *Quadrumana*: *quatuor*, four; *manus*, a hand.

they spend a merry life, swinging and skipping from bough to bough in search of fruits or birds' eggs, sporting in the pleasant sunshine in the highest branches, or hiding themselves from the scorching sunbeams beneath their leafy shelter.

We commence our account of the Monkey tribe with APES, seeing in their size and appearance they most resemble Man.

The fiercest and most powerful of the Apes is the enormous GORILLA. It is a native of the western portion of Africa. The inhabitants of those parts dread it more than they do the Lion. It conceals itself among the branches of the forest trees; and if an unsuspecting Negro pass by, it lets down its terrible hind foot, grasps its victim round the throat, lifts him up, and at length drops him on the ground quite dead. A full grown Gorilla has never been captured; the strength and cunning of this animal are such that the rude natives may well be excused for their dread of it. Some young Gorillas have been taken, but they have always died in a very short time. The natives of Africa have an idea that the Gorilla and other large Apes are really men, and that they pretend to be dumb, lest they should be obliged to work. There are various ac-

6 *The Chimpanzee and Orang-Outan.*

counts of the size of this animal; it is said to attain to a height of six, and even, in some cases, of seven feet.

The CHIMPANZEE, or BLACK ORANG, like the Gorilla, is only to be found in Africa, more especially near Sierra Leone. Chimpanzees avoid the dwellings of men, and build their habitations in trees at a distance of twenty, thirty, or even forty feet from the ground. They live on fruits, and are exceedingly active in their native forests. They are said to be very filthy in their habits; yet when captured by the natives they are eaten by them, and their flesh is said to be very sweet. Several young Chimpanzees have been brought to this country, and they appeared to be very gentle and docile. They, however, have not lived till they arrived at their full growth. They have generally fallen victims to disease of the lungs.

The ORANG-OUTAN is a frightful-looking animal, and has the appearance of a wicked old man. It is chiefly found in the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. It is covered with brown hair. Its arms are so long that when it stands erect they almost reach the ground. These arms are very strong,



GORILLA APE—MANDRILL BABOON—DIANA MONKEY, ETC.

as it is by their means that they make progress among the boughs of the trees on which it loves to live. It builds for itself a kind of nest of woven branches of trees. When the hunters wish to capture an Orang, they hem it in by felling the trees around that on which it is, and so deprive it of the means of escape. It is said to be five or six feet in height; but they do not grow so tall when in a state of captivity.

The AGILE GIBBON, or LONG-ARMED APE, is a native of Sumatra. Its height is about three feet, and the reach of its extended arms six feet. It derives its name of "agile" from its wonderful activity in springing from branch to branch. One of these animals, exhibited some time since in London, sprang with the greatest ease distances of twelve and eighteen feet; and if nuts or apples were thrown to her, she would catch them in mid-air. When in their native forests, these animals throw themselves from one tree to another to a distance of forty feet with a rapidity which defies pursuit. Those who have seen them in their wild state compare their actions and appearance to those of a bird.

The SIAMANG is found in the Peninsula of Ma-

laya. It is about three feet in height, and of a jet-black color. The Siamangs assemble in large troops, commanded by a chief. At sunset and at sunrise they make the whole forest resound with their howling, but during the day they are quite silent. Their companions, when wounded, are always at once abandoned, but a mother will rather suffer herself to be taken than leave her bleeding young one. The Malays state that the Siamangs take their little ones to the banks of a stream to wash them, and, in spite of all their pettish cries and violent kickings, they rub and dry them in the most approved manner.

The PROBOSCIS MONKEY, or KAHAU, so called from its cry somewhat resembling that word, is a native of Borneo. Its remarkably long nose gives it a very singular appearance. In the female and in the young this part of the face is by no means so large. The natives say that when leaping they take their noses in their hands to prevent them from being damaged. The principal color in its body is a bright chestnut red.

The DIANA MONKEY is so called because it has on its black forehead a line of white hair in the

shape of a half moon, and Diana was the name given by the ancients to the goddess of the moon. Its fur is beautifully marked, resembling very much the bright and rich plumage of a bird. It has a long and sharply pointed beard, which it takes the greatest care of. The color of the beard is pure white. The Diana Monkey is easily tamed, and is a very pleasing little creature; it is cleanly in its habits, which is more than can be said of all Monkeys.

BABOONS are called **DOG-HEADED MONKEYS** from the resemblance of the head and jaws to those of a Dog. They are natives of Africa and the west of Asia. They are known by their short tails, their cheek-pouches, and their extreme ugliness. They are most disgusting in their manners, and fierce and cruel in their tempers. They have large, sharp teeth; and when they leap upon their prey, they drag him toward them with their hands and feet, fix their teeth in his throat, until the sharp fangs meet together; they then violently push him from them, so that the teeth cut their way through the flesh, and inflict a wound that is often immediately fatal. They are always to be found in the neighborhood of trees and crags. They are very seldom to be seen walking erect, generally on all-fours like a quadruped.

Baboons are always found in troops, under the command of a leader ; and when they are in search of food, they plunder the fields and orchards in a very artful manner. They range themselves in long rows ; and when the leader has plucked the fruit, he hands it to the one nearest to him, and he to a third, and so on, till the plunder is silently conveyed to a great distance.

The CHACMAS, the MANDRILLS, and the DRILLS are the most common of the Baboon tribe.

The Mandrill is remarkable for its brilliant colors. Its cheeks are of a bright blue, its muzzle of a scarlet, and a line of crimson runs along the centre of the nose.

The WANDEROO, or OUANDEROO, is a native of the East Indies, and it is found in great numbers in Ceylon. The heavy mass of hair that crowns the whole head and covers its face gives it a very grave and dignified appearance. By the natives it is said that the other monkeys look upon the Wanderoo as a great personage, always paying it their most profound reverence, and humbling themselves before it as in the presence of a lord and king. From the form of the tail, which at the end is adorned with a hairy tuft, it is also called the "Lion-tailed Baboon."

The preceding Monkeys belong to Africa and Asia; we now come to the AMERICAN Monkeys, of which there is a great variety.

The SPIDER MONKEYS are well known from their long, sprawling limbs. They have prehensile, that is, grasping tails, which are very useful to them when either climbing trees or walking on the ground. These tails are very delicate in their touch; and when the monkey discovers a nest of eggs which lie in some hole too small for the hand to reach, it inserts its tail and hooks up the desired object. It is said that the tail of this monkey is as useful to it as the trunk is to the Elephant. When in search of food, these Spider Monkeys travel so fast that nothing without wings can follow them.

The forests in America are so vast, that if it were not for occasional rivers, these Monkeys might travel for hundreds of miles without once coming to the ground; and the rivers do not trouble them much either; for, although they hate water as much as Cats do, they have an ingenious way of crossing them without once touching the water. When a marching troop of Monkeys come to a river, a halt is made. Some old and experienced Monkeys then survey the stream, and, having selected a spot where the trees on either side are nearest to each



WHITE-HEADED SAKI—GREAT HOWLER—SPIDER MONKEY, ETC.

other, one of the most powerful twists his tail firmly round the branch, and suffers himself to hang with his head downward. Another then slides down the body of the first, twists his tail round him, and quietly awaits the rest. In this way a long chain is formed; and when they are of opinion that it is long enough, they commence vibrating backward and forward, like the pendulum of a clock, till the last in the link is able to seize a branch on the opposite side. The bridge is now formed, and the whole troop pass safely over, the younger members giving vent to their fun by pinching and kicking those who compose the bridge.

. The HOWLING MONKEYS, as their name denotes, are extremely noisy creatures; and no traveler who has been obliged to listen to their night-long yells is likely easily to forget them. They possess an enlargement in the throat which renders their cry exceedingly loud and dismal.

The ARAGUATO, or URSINE HOWLER, is the largest of this group. It resembles a young Bear. It is about three feet long, and its tail reaches even to a greater length. Its fur is bushy, and of a reddish-brown, and the breast and stomach are covered with fine hair. These Howlers yell so loud that

they may be heard at the distance of a mile. The natives assert that in each company one of the Monkeys acts as a leader of the chorus. They are not so playful as Monkeys generally are. They are very numerous among their favorite trees, as many as forty having been seen on a single tree.

The **WHITE-FACED SAPAJOU** is gray on the upper, and white on the under parts of the body. In disposition it is mild and active. Humboldt met a tame one kept by an Indian which amused itself every morning by catching a Pig, and remained seated on it throughout the day; and another, kept by a missionary, was in the habit of taking the same liberty with a Cat which had been reared with it.

The **BLACK YARKE**, or **WHITE-HEADED SAKI**, is remarkable for the color of its head, which resembles the white wigs which were at one time the fashion in this country. The **COUXIO**, or **BEARDED SAKI**, is a very savage animal, violent in its temper, and subject to fits of passion, in which it does not hesitate to use its long, sharp teeth. Its hair is parted in the middle, and it is adorned with a beard of a dull black color, of which it is mightily careful. It will not put its face near water when

drinking, or drink a deep draught by suction as other Monkeys, but it scoops up the liquid in the palm of its hand, to avoid wetting its beard. The food of these animals is said to be wild bees, and their honeycombs.

THE SILKY TAMARIN.—This beautiful little creature is about eight inches in length, its tail about a foot. Its fur is long and silky, and of a glossy golden yellow. The hair of the head is long and flowing, parted down the middle of the crown by a line of short rust-brown hairs. The ears are almost concealed by the abundance of its hair. On account of the lustre of its silky fur, its mildness of temper, and the elegance of its movements, it is a great favorite.

Another engaging little creature is the **MARMOZET**. It is a native of Brazil. Its fur is long and very soft, with bold black stripes on a ground of white and reddish color. On account of its great beauty it is often taken from its native haunts. It is very sensitive to cold, and always likes to have its cage well lined with warm clothing. The Marmozet has a strange fancy for hair, and is fond of playing with the locks of its owner.

LEMURS.

The **LEMURS** are found in the dense forests which cover the large island of Madagascar. They appear to hold a middle place between the Monkeys and Quadrupeds. Their home, like that of the Monkeys, is among the trees; and their hands and their feet are well adapted for grasping the branches. But the head of the Lemur is very unlike that of the Monkey; it is sharp, and long, and pointed, and the muzzle and jaws resemble those of the Fox, whence they are often called Fox Monkeys. Their curious name of "Lemurs" is derived from a word meaning "ghosts," and this name is given them on account of their nocturnal habits and their stealthy, noiseless movements. They sleep all day, rolled up like a ball, with their long tails wound round them. Their fur is long and soft, and their thumbs are well formed. Though they do not possess the cunning or the intelligence of Monkeys, they are easily tamed, and in confinement are very harmless, while their beautiful appearance and their active movements make them great favorites. In a wild state they live on fruits, insects, reptiles, small birds, and eggs.

The **RUFFED LEMUR** is a handsome creature. The texture of its fur is very fine, and its color varies between a pure white and a jetty blackness. The face is black, and a fringe of long white hairs stands out like a ruff, whence it gets its name. Of all the Lemurs it is the largest, being about the size of a Cat. Its voice is very loud, considering its size, and in the deep quiet of the night it can be heard at a great distance.

The **RED LEMUR** and the **RING-TAILED LEMUR** are both very beautiful creatures. One of the latter kind was brought to Europe. It appeared to suffer much from the cold, rolling itself into a ball, and covering its back and head with its long bushy tail. During the winter it always kept very near to the fire, stretching out its arms to the flame as if to warm itself. So desirous was it of heat, that it frequently burnt its whiskers and face before it would remove to a greater distance. When the heat was too great, it would turn first one side of its face and then the other to the fire, that it might have as much of the comfort of the fire as possible.

The **FLYING LEMUR** has often been placed among



FLYING LEMUR—RING-TAILED AND RUFFED LEMURS—SLOW-PACED LORIS.

the Bats. It is, however, a true Lemur. It has its limbs connected by a thin skin, which they can stretch out, as the frame-work of an umbrella supports its covering. By this singular structure the animal is supported in the air ; it has not the power of flying upward, though it can leap a distance of a hundred yards with a gradual descent. Like the Bats, it feeds on insects, and sleeps with its head downward, suspended by its hind legs.

The SLOW-PACED LORIS is sometimes called a Lemur, though there is a marked difference in its structure. It is not so large as the Ruffed Lemur. It lives almost entirely on trees, and preys on sleeping birds, insects, and mice, which it approaches softly and noiselessly, and seizes before its victim is aware of its being so near. In its motions it is very slow and languid. When on the ground it rather drags itself along than walks. When climbing a tree, though more active, it advances with equal wariness, never quitting its hold of one foot till it is assured of the firmness of its grasp with the other.

WING-HANDED ANIMALS.*

BATS.

FROM the earliest times learned people have had great difficulty in deciding whether Bats should be classed among the Birds or the Beasts. Some say they must be Birds because they can fly, and others insist that they are Beasts because they can run along the ground. But Bats have nothing in common with Birds except their power of flying; and as they bring forth their young alive and suckle them, they are true Mammalia. But, as they are so peculiar in their structure, they are now placed in an Order by themselves, and are called Wing-Handed Animals; and they have received this name because they have a thin membrane which incloses their four feet, and serves the purpose of wings. The four fingers, forming the frame-work of the wing, correspond with those of the hand; and there is also a small thumb with a hook-like

* *Cheiroptera*, from two Greek words, *χείρ* and *πτερόν*; the former signifying a *hand*, the latter a *wing*.

nail, which enables them to climb up walls or to make their way on the ground. The toes of the hind feet are furnished with claws, by which the Bats suspend themselves from the trees and walls on which they rest, hanging with their heads downward. The wing is extremely sensitive. Some very cruel experiments have been made to ascertain this. The eyes of some Bats have been put out, and then they have been allowed to fly about a room across which strings had been stretched in several directions. The poor Bats, however, did not strike against the strings or other objects, but managed to thread their way through them all in a most wonderful manner.

The COMMON BAT is about the size of a Mouse, covered on the body with a short fur of a mouse color tinged with red. They are dormant, or they sleep, during the winter, and are, like the Lemurs, nocturnal animals—that is, they sleep through the day and are active during the night. Their food consists of flies, gnats, and other insects. They are chiefly found in old buildings, in lonely caves, or in the hollows of trees. Their flight is strong and rapid, but is seldom continued more than an hour. The Owl is their great enemy.



VAMPIRE BAT—LONG-EARED BAT—COMMON BAT.

THE VAMPIRE, or SPECTRE BAT, is a native of South America. It is about the size of a Squirrel, and the spread of its wings is about three feet. It is a horrid creature, and many strange tales are told of its blood-sucking propensities. They are said to come silently into the room where the sleeper lies, place themselves near his feet, and fan him gently with their wings to induce a greater soundness of sleep. Then they apply their needle-pointed teeth to the foot, and suck the blood till they have gorged themselves. And these tales, though greatly exaggerated, have some foundation. D'Azara states that he had the ends of his toes bitten by them four several times; and Captain Stedman says that he also was bitten without feeling it, but when he awoke he found himself covered with clotted blood. Mr. Waterton, though he lived for several months with windows wide open and his feet exposed in a part where these Bats abounded, could not induce them to try the taste of his blood, while, however, they bit the toes of some of his companions. When they attack quadrupeds they generally fix upon their shoulders and flanks. It is quite common, when the cattle are brought from the fields where they have passed the night, to find them covered with blood caused by the bites of these animals.

The Vampire Bat has a curious leaf-like membrane attached to its nose. This strange appendage is to be found in some of the Bats inhabiting our own land. Among those who are so decorated, the GREAT HORSE-SHOE BAT is the most celebrated.

The LONG-EARED BAT is one of the most common and most elegant Bats to be found in this country. This pretty little creature is to be seen in all parts of England, and, on account of its handsome ears and its gentleness of temper, has frequently been tamed. Its enormous ears are most beautiful organs. Their texture is very delicate, and the Bat has the power of throwing them into graceful attitudes at every movement. It has an acute and shrill, but not loud cry.

The KALONG, or FRUIT-EATING BAT, abounds in the lower districts of Java. It is the largest of the Bat tribe. The extent of its expanded wings is about five feet. These Kalongs are generally called Fox-bats, or Flying-foxes, from the red, fox-like color of their fur, and their general resemblance to that animal. They live in large bodies. They suspend themselves from the trees during

the day by the hinder claw, and from their motionless appearance they might be taken for parts of the tree itself, or for fruit suspended from the branches. At the approach of night they begin to move, and range through the forests and plantations in search of food; they do great mischief, eating most greedily all manner of fruits. In their turn they are eaten by the natives of the countries where they abound, and are considered to be great delicacies.

QUADRUPEDS.

WILD ANIMALS.

(*Feræ.*)

LEAVING the four-handed, we come now to the four-footed animals, or Quadrupeds. At the head of these we place the CARNIVOROUS, or flesh-eating animals, whose whole structure is adapted for the pursuit and destruction of those animals on which they feed. They are divided into four Tribes or Families, namely, the Cat, the Dog, the Weasel, and the Bear Tribes. The Cat Tribe, while it is the most beautiful and perfect, is the most fierce and cunning of the flesh-eating animals. The Cat Tribe includes the Lion, the Tiger, the Leopard, the Jaguar, and other similar animals.

THE LION.

At the head of the Wild Animals must be placed the Lion. From the earliest ages it has been called "the King of Beasts." It has received this name from its great strength, its stately form, its

terrible roar, and its tremendous powers of destruction. We can have no idea of its action or its habits from seeing it in its cribbed and confined cage in the Zoological Gardens. It is only to be seen in its full grandeur in its native haunts, as it lies crouching amid the rushes on the river's bank waiting for the active Deer or the stately Giraffe, or lanching itself with terrible spring on the broad back of the Buffalo. Its roar, which causes all the beasts of the forest to tremble, only can be heard in all its terror on the broad plains of the African wilderness.

Africa is the true home of the Lion; it is to be found in some parts of Asia, but the Asiatic Lion is altogether inferior to its African brother.

The Lion is not so large an animal as might have been expected from the tales of its great strength. It is, when full grown, only four feet in height and eight in length; and, though so small, it has been known to carry off in its mouth a Heifer, and to leap with its burden with the greatest ease over a broad dike. Its usual prey is the Deer, the Antelope, and the Zebra; it is also very fond of the flesh of a kind of Wild Ass found in Southern Africa, called the Quagga; and wherever these animals are found, the hunters know that the Lion is not far distant.



AFRICAN LION, LIONESS, AND CUBS.

The Lion is generally considered to be a brave, noble, generous animal. But those who have studied it in its wild state say that it is the very opposite. They speak of it as a sneaking, cowardly animal; that it never attacks its foe openly; that when in search of its prey it creeps cautiously along, taking advantage of every bush and tree, and when it has arrived within the limits of its spring, it flings itself on its poor victim, and strikes it to the ground. It is only when the Lion is hungry that it defies danger; and when it has plenty to eat it will not trouble itself to attack either man or beast.

The Lion is well adapted for the purposes of its life. Its teeth are large and well suited for the tearing of animal food. Its tongue is so rough that it can remove every part of the muscle from the bones of its victim. A gentleman, who had a tame young Lion, one day fell asleep, leaving one of his hands hanging over the side of his couch. The Lion, by way of showing his affection, began to lick the exposed hand. The rough tongue soon found its way through the skin, and caused a slight flow of blood, which was greedily licked off by the Lion. The pain awoke the gentleman, who began to withdraw his hand from the caresses of the animal. But at the first movement the Lion uttered

a short deep growl, which was repeated every time he tried to remove the hand. The animal had suddenly changed from a domestic pet to a wild beast which had for the first time lapped blood and thirsted for more. His owner, sorely against his will, quietly slipped his other hand under his pillow, where he kept a ready-loaded pistol, and shot the Lion through the head. If he had hesitated much longer it would have cost him his life.

The claws are long, hard, and hooked, and, that they may not get blunt by walking, they can be withdrawn into a sheath which is inclosed in the skin which covers the end of the paws.

The Lion has a broad face, surrounded with long shaggy hair, and a flowing mane, which increases in length as the animal grows older, adorns the neck. When provoked to anger by either man or beast, it raises its mane, its eyes gleam with rage, it utters its deep roar, it lashes its tail; and when it springs on its foe there is then little chance of escape.

When taken young the Lion is easily tamed, and shows much attachment to its keepers, permitting them to take great liberties—even allowing them to put their heads in its mouth.

The Lioness has no mane, and is not so large an animal as her mate. When she is a mother

and her little ones are interfered with, she is a terrible enemy to all who come across her, attacking them with the fiercest courage and the most obstinate bravery. She brings forth from three to four young ones at a litter, which are called "cubs." They are very playful little things. The mane does not appear till they are about two years old.

Many are the dangers encountered by the Lion-hunters. On one occasion a hunter had made for himself a pit, and had watched during the night for some game which would reward him for his loss of rest. Nothing, however, had come within his range except a white Rhinoceros, which was shot and fell dead on the spot. At length the tired hunter, wearied with his long watch, fell asleep. He had not been long in this state before a rumbling noise made him aware that some danger was near. A moment's reflection told him that that sound could only proceed from a Lion, and that one of these animals was actually stooping over him, his breath playing on his face. Knowing the danger of alarming the Lion, the hunter quietly felt for his gun, which was lying ready loaded and cocked in front of him, and raised himself to get a glimpse of his foe. Slight as the movement was, it was sufficient to alarm the Lion, who uttered a sharp growl, which was any thing but

pleasant to the intended victim. Knowing that not a moment was to be lost, he pointed his weapon at the dark mass before him and fired. Presently the fierce roarings of the angry brute were heard. The Lion had been shot, and, maddened by the pain, he sought to wreak his vengeance on his foe by tearing up the ground on all sides of him. By degrees the roarings subsided into angry growls, and the growls into moans, until the terrible voice was hushed, and silence reigned throughout the remainder of the night. At the first break of day, the hunter ventured from his place of concealment, and, searching for the carcass of the Lion, found it lying about fifty yards from his late hiding-place. Even in that short space the Hyenas and Jackals had made sad havoc with the body of their departed monarch, and had so spoiled the skin that it was of no farther service than to remind him of the events of that fearful night.

Dr. Livingstone, the well-known African traveler, was wonderfully preserved from a most terrible death. After describing an attack made upon a Lion, he proceeds: "Starting and looking half round, I saw the Lion just in the act of springing upon me. I was upon a little height; he caught my shoulder as he sprang, and we both came to the ground together. Growling close to my ear,

he shook me as a terrier dog does a rat." The doctor was rescued by his Hottentot servant, who fired upon the Lion, and who himself was attacked by the angry beast.

The ASIATIC LION, though rather smaller, is very similar in habits to that found in Africa. There is one kind, however, which may be mentioned. This is the MANELESS LION of Guzerat, a city of India: it is called maneless because its neck and throat are without that covering which is so great an ornament to the true Lion.

The TIGER is only to be found in Asia. It is not quite so large as the Lion: it is between three and four feet in height, and about eight in length. It is a very handsome animal. It is of a reddish-yellow color, striped with black bands, which are continued in the form of rings on the tail. The skin of the Tiger is highly prized, and the princes of India use it to carpet their thrones. Its favorite abode is in the jungle, or long grass, near some marsh or stream. It is more savage and cruel than the Lion.

Tiger-hunting is a favorite amusement in India; it is very dangerous. In this sport, as Horses have a great dread of Tigers, Elephants are usually employed. A number of hunters assemble,



BENGAL TIGER ATTACKING A WILD BULL. red by Google

mounted on trained Elephants. They bring with them in their howdahs—carriages mounted on the Elephant's back—a number of loaded rifles. Thus armed, they advance to the jungle where the Tiger lies concealed. The hunters, having discovered its hiding-place, commence the attack by firing at it. The Tiger, thus roused, and seeing no means of escape, springs at the nearest Elephant, always aiming at the trunk, which is the most sensitive part of the Elephant. The trunk is generally raised high up in the air, or kept curled out of harm's way. Sometimes the Tiger lanches itself on to the hind-quarters of the Elephant, and tries to clamber up and reach the people in the howdah. On feeling the Tiger's claws, the Elephant, if not well trained, turns round and runs away. On one occasion a Tiger sprang on a badly-trained Elephant, who immediately ran off. The Tiger reached the Elephant's tail, which it mangled very sadly, but was prevented getting to the howdah by a native, who kept it back by means of a spear. In this way the Tiger held on for about a mile, when a hunter, overtaking them, with a single ball freed the Elephant from its troublesome burden.

In Eastern countries, the rulers often amuse themselves and their visitors with fights between

the Tiger and other animals. On one occasion a Tiger and a Bear were pitted against each other. But they did not seem inclined to fight. The soldiers kicked and thumped them, but it was all in vain. "Tie them together!" said the prince. This brilliant idea was at once acted upon, and the animals began to drag each other about in fine style. The spectators now thought that they would see a fight; but the Tiger, having made a sudden spring across the court, leaped through an open window into a room where the prince kept his English furniture, of which he was very proud. The Tiger commenced smashing it on all sides, when he was brought up suddenly by the rope to which the Bear was attached, who, having been drawn up half way between the window and the ground, was dangling in mid-air in a most pitiable manner. The prince, who was in a sad way at the destruction of his furniture, ordered the Tiger to be secured and the rope to be cut. The Tiger was then dragged off by main force, and the Bear slunk off sulkily to his den.

Sometimes the Tiger is very easily frightened. Some soldiers used to amuse themselves by thrusting a Mouse close to a Tiger's nose. The moment he saw the little animal he leaped to the opposite side of his cage, and stood trembling and

roaring in such a state of fear that the soldiers at length gave over, out of sheer pity for the brute.

On one occasion a party of pleasure in the country in India were saved by the presence of mind of a lady, who, just as she saw a Tiger about to spring upon them, boldly opened her umbrella in his face, on which the terrified brute turned tail and scampered off.

It is said that the Tiger can not stand the eye of man. An officer rambling in the jungle suddenly came face to face with a Bengal Tiger. Both parties, at this unexpected meeting, came to a dead halt, and there they stood gazing into each other's faces, till at length the Tiger was so cowed by the intent gaze of the officer that he ran off to the thicket, leaving the officer to find his way back to his tent, which we may suppose he was only too glad to do.

It is a mistake which some people fall into to suppose that Tigers can not be tamed as well as Lions. In the year 1790, a beautiful young Tiger was brought over to this country, which on board the vessel was as harmless and as playful as a kitten. It allowed those on board to take whatever liberty they pleased with him; and often he would be seen stretched on the deck, with two or three of the sailors reposing their heads on his back as on a pillow.

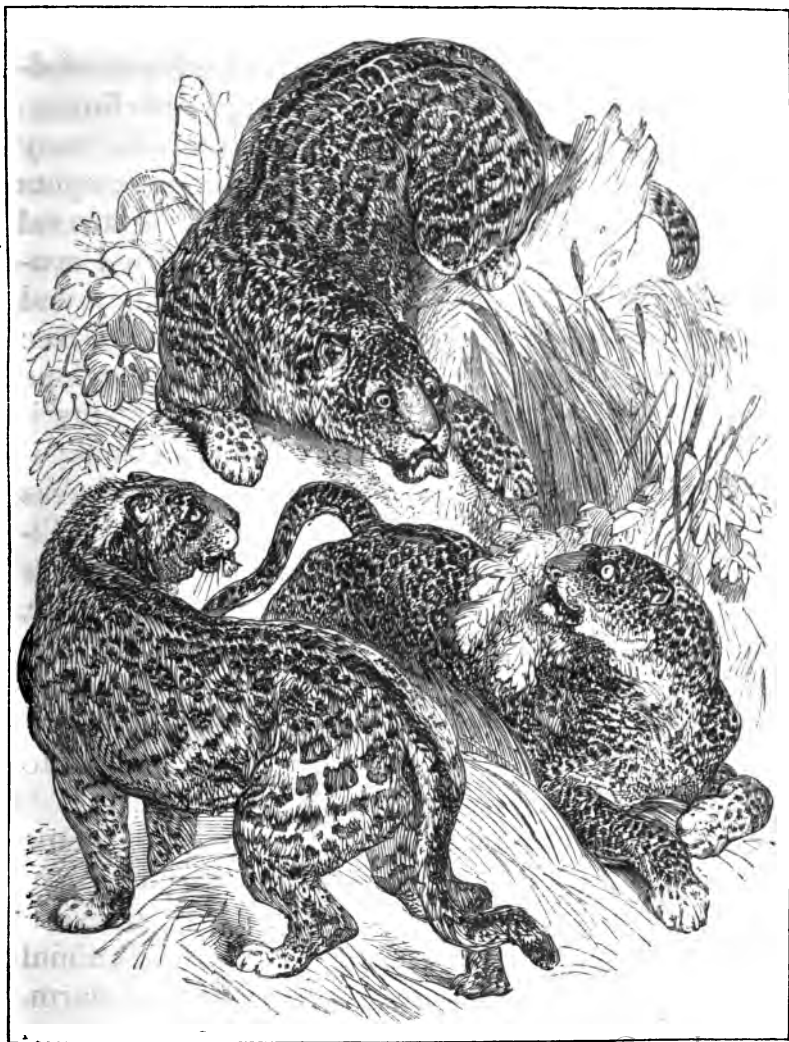
When he was placed in the Tower, a small black Terrier puppy was put into the same cage with him; and not only did he never do it any injury, but seemed most unhappy when his little companion was taken away from him. But great caution must be taken with these animals; for, although they may appear to be quite tame, their savage nature sometimes breaks through on very slight occasions. Such was the case a few years ago at Wombwell's Menagerie, when the young woman who was called the "Lion Queen," from the command which she had over the wild animals, fell a victim to the sudden anger of a Tiger. She had been forced to punish the Tiger for some act of disobedience, when the animal suddenly turned upon her, grasped her by the throat, and in a very short time after she was taken out of the cage she died. It is quite possible that the Tiger did not intend to carry his revenge so far as this.

The Tigress is not so large as the male. She brings forth four or five at a litter, and, like the Lioness, breeds in captivity.

The LEOPARD, or PANTHER, is to be found in the woods of Africa, and in the southern portion of Asia. It is not as large as the Tiger; its length is about three feet, and its height rather more than

two. It is a very handsome animal; it is considered to be the most graceful of the Cat family. The markings of its fur are very beautiful; they consist of a great number of large rose-like spots passing along the sides, each formed of several smaller black spots, inclosing a fawn-colored centre. Though it is so beautiful, it is very sly and fierce. It lies so closely to the branches of a tree that it can scarcely be seen; and if an Antelope or a Hare pass by, it pounces upon it, and tears it to pieces. It is quite at home among the trees; it bounds from branch to branch with such swiftness that the Africans give it the name of the Tree-Tiger. It is easily tamed, and shows great fondness for its keeper. A female Leopard in the Tower, in the year 1829, allowed herself to be caressed by her keepers, but had a strange passion for snatching umbrellas, parasols, hats, muffs, and other articles of dress, and tearing them in pieces, much to the astonishment of the plundered visitors.

The Leopard is very cunning and strong. One day an Ox had been killed, and the joints hung up in a hut, near which a sentinel was posted. Toward evening the sentinel felt sure that some wild animal had entered the hut, and at once gave an alarm. Lights were procured, and several persons examined all parts of the hut without being able to discov-



JAGUAR—OUNCE—LEOPARD. Digitized by Google

er the intruder. They were just about to leave, when one of the party, looking up, saw a Leopard clinging to the roof, just above the hooks on which the meat was hung. As soon as the animal saw that he was discovered, he dropped down on to the floor, laid about him vigorously with his claws, and dashed off through an open doorway.

There is one kind of Leopard with so dark a fur that it is called the **BLACK LEOPARD**.

The Panther and the Leopard have by many been thought to be different animals; but those who have paid the closest attention to their habits say that they are one and the same.

The **OUNCE** is very like the Leopard in form, size, and habits. Its fur is rougher and fuller, and the general color of its body is paler than that animal. It is grayish-white, slightly tinged with yellow. It is a native of India.

The **JAGUAR** inhabits the hottest parts of America. It is larger and more powerful than the Leopard. It has a bright yellow skin. It may be distinguished from the Leopard by its short tail, which never reaches farther than the ground, and by the rings having a black mark in their centre. It is very strong; it kills Horses or Cows in a singular

manner. It pounces on the neck of its victim; and, placing one paw on the back part of the head, with the other it seizes hold of the muzzle, raises it, and crushes the skull in a moment. It can climb trees with the greatest ease; the marks of its claws have been seen on the smooth bark of a tree forty or fifty feet high, where it has ascended in pursuit of Monkeys. It is also a good swimmer; it has been known to cross over a broad stream with the body of a Horse. It catches Fish, of which it is extremely fond; and it is able to catch, kill, and eat the Turtle, which it does in a very clever manner. After the Turtle has laid her eggs under a slight covering of earth, there to be warmed by the bright beams of the sun, the Jaguar springs upon her, and manages by its strong paw to turn the Turtle on her back; it then, at its leisure, scoops out the flesh by inserting its paws between the shells.

The Jaguar was exceedingly troublesome to the first settlers in America; it was almost impossible for them to keep any live-stock; it destroyed Horses, Pigs, and Poultry all alike. But perseverance and courage have obliged these animals to retire from the habitations of men, and to find shelter in the dense forests of that country.

The PUMA is often called the “American Lion;”

but it is neither so large nor so noble-looking as that animal. Its color is of a uniform light tawny tint. It lives much on trees, and as its fur is very like the bark, it is with some difficulty it can be seen by hunters. It is known to track travelers for long distances, watching for an opportunity to spring upon them. If, however, any of the party stop and gaze fixedly on the crawling creature, it immediately slinks off, as if cowed.

The PUMA is very savage. It has been known to kill no less than fifty sheep in one night. Like others of the Cat tribe, the Puma takes its prey by surprise. It hides among the branches of trees, and lanches itself on the animal who may pass within reach of its strong and powerful paw. Its flesh is said by those who have tasted it to be very sweet and tender. The natives of South America capture it by means of the *lasso*, or long leather cord, and then gallop off with the creature hanging at its end.

The Puma can be tamed, and has been known to follow its master like a Dog. The celebrated actor, Edmund Ke³an, possessed a tame Puma, which was so gentle that it allowed him to present it to a room full of people. One day it broke loose; and as this happened in London, it might have committed great havoc, but happily no harm



OCELOT—CARACAL—PUMA. Digitized by Google

followed from its outbreak. A watchman took it into custody, and restored it to its owner.

The Puma is often called a Carcajou, and sometimes a Cougar. The Americans always speak of it as the Panther, or "Painter."

There is an animal very like to the Puma in its color and habits, which is called the YAGOUARONDI. It is a native of Guiana, in South America.

The OCELOT, or TIGER-CAT, is a native of Mexico and Peru, where it is very abundant. Its height is about eighteen inches; its length three feet. Its habits are similar to those of the Leopard. It follows the Monkeys into the branches of the trees, being almost as expert a climber as these active animals. It is so rapid in its movements that it can spring upon a flock of Birds as they rise from the ground, and strike down one of them with its paw. There are many varieties of this animal; the principal are the Common, the Gray, and the Painted Ocelots, and the Margay or Marjay. They are all very much alike.

The CAT.—Every little boy and girl knows "Pussy." It is the most domestic of all animals; and whether it lies coiled up on the hearth-rug in

the parlor, or warms itself by the kitchen-fire, it is equally at home: it is, in fact, one of the family. Look at the little Kitten rolling a ball across the room, or running after its own tail, how playful it is! Again, look at the Cat stealing softly across the garden: it has spied a poor unconscious bird—she draws near to it—she crouches for a spring—she throws herself with all her force on her prey, and strikes it to the ground. A Cat in a house always gives it an air of comfort; and Pussy makes herself useful too, by keeping Rats and Mice at a distance. Cats are very fond of warmth, and have a great objection to wetting their feet. They also like powerful scents, and the smell of valerian especially delights them.

The Cat is said to be an animal without affection, and that it is for food, and shelter, and warmth that it attaches itself to man. Yet many instances of strong affection may be given. Some Cats recognize the voices of their owners, and run to them with great joy after absence; and in some cases an attachment almost equal to that of a Dog has been shown toward man.

A gentleman in the neighborhood of London had a tortoise-shell Cat, which, though he never fed it, or paid much attention to it, was as fond of him as

any Dog could be. She knew his ring at the bell ; and, at whatever time he came home, she was rubbing against his legs long before the servant came, saw him into the sitting-room, and then walked off. As soon as he rose in the morning the Cat was always ready to receive him, and accompanied him in his morning walk to the garden, skipping to the tops of the trees, and descending and gamboling about him. When he was confined by illness to his room, she used to pay him several visits every day.

One of the most affecting instances of attachment is the following : A French lady had a favorite Cat, which constantly lay at her feet, as if she was always ready to defend her. She never ventured to molest the birds her mistress kept. She would not take food from any hand save hers, nor would she allow any one else to caress her. At the death of the lady the poor Cat was removed from her chamber, but she made her way there the next morning, went on the bed, sat upon her chair, and cried most piteously, as if lamenting her lost mistress. After the funeral the Cat was found stretched on her mistress's grave, apparently having died from excess of grief.

It is well known how strong is the love of Cats for their Kittens ; and how, even when they have been drowned, Puss will sometimes continue to



THE CAT AND KITTENS.

D

bring them food, calling on all sides for her young ones to partake of the treat. She has been known to supply the loss of her kittens by the young of other animals; and cases are known of young Hares and Puppies having been reared by Cats. On one occasion, a rat-catcher threw to a Cat who had lost her kittens some young Rats, and instead of tearing them to pieces she took them under her care and brought up the whole brood; and the Cat, with her strange progeny, were publicly exhibited.

Captain Marryatt tells the following anecdote, which we will give in his own words: "A little black Spaniel had five Puppies, which were considered too many for her to bring up. As, however, the breed was much in request, her mistress was unwilling that any of them should be destroyed, and she asked the cook whether she thought it would be possible to bring up a portion of them by hand before the kitchen fire. In reply, the cook observed that the Cat had that day kittened, and that perhaps the Puppies might be substituted. The Cat made no objection, took to them kindly, and gradually all the Kittens were taken away, and the Cat nursed the two Puppies only. Now the first curious fact was, that the two Puppies nursed by the Cat were in a fortnight as active, forward,

and playful as Kittens would have been : they had the use of their legs, barked, and gamboled about ; while the other three, nursed by the mother, were whining and rolling about like fat slugs. The Cat gave them her tail to play with, and they were always in motion : they soon ate meat, and long before the others they were fit to be removed. This was done, and the Cat became very inconsolable. She prowled about the house, and on the second day of tribulation fell in with the little Spaniel who was nursing the three other Puppies. ‘Oh,’ says Puss, putting up her back, ‘it is you who have stolen my children.’ ‘No,’ replied the Spaniel, with a snarl, ‘they are my own flesh and blood.’ ‘That won’t do,’ said the Cat ; ‘I’ll take my oath before any justice of the peace that you have my two Puppies.’ Thereupon issue was joined ; that is to say, there was a desperate combat, which ended in the defeat of the Spaniel, and in the Cat walking off proudly with one of the Puppies, which she took to her own bed. Having deposited this one, she returned, fought again, gained another victory, and redeemed another Puppy. Now it is very singular that she should only have taken two, the exact number she had been deprived of.”

The attachment of the Cat to particular persons

and places is most wonderful. It will return to its home after a long absence, and over a very great distance.

A favorite tabby belonging to a shipmaster was left on shore by accident while his vessel sailed from the harbor of Aberdour, Fifeshire, which is about half a mile from the village. The vessel was about a month absent, and on her return, to the astonishment of the shipmaster, Puss came on board with a fine stout Kitten in her mouth, apparently about three weeks old, and went directly down into the cabin. Two others of her young ones were afterward caught quite wild in a neighboring wood, where she must have remained with them till the return of the vessel. The shipmaster did not allow her again to go on shore, otherwise it is probable she would have brought the whole litter on board. What makes this the more remarkable is, that vessels were daily entering and leaving the harbor, none of which she ever thought of visiting till the one she had left returned.

A very extraordinary case of a Cat following its master is given by a gentleman who removed from Sligo to Dublin, a distance of not less than ninety miles. When about to change his residence, he and his children regretted very much being obliged

to leave a favorite Cat behind them which had endeared itself to them by its affection. The gentleman had not been many days settled in his new abode, when one evening, as the family were sitting chatting after tea, the servant came in, followed by a Cat so precisely like the one left behind that all the family repeated his name at once. The creature testified great joy in his own way at the meeting. He was closely examined, and no difference whatever was discernible between the Cat in Sligo and that now beside them. Still it was difficult to believe it was their poor pet; for how could he have traveled after them, or how could he have found them out? And yet the exact resemblance, and the satisfaction which the poor animal evinced as he walked about, with his tail erect, and purring with pleasure, left but little doubt upon their minds that this was indeed their own Cat. The gentleman took him upon his lap, and, examining him closely, found that his claws were actually worn down, which at once convinced him that poor Puss had really traveled the whole ninety miles' journey.

The Cat can not be said to be equal to the Dog in docility or sagacity, yet many instances might be given which show that it is not without these qualities. We limit ourselves to one illustration. An Angora Cat, belonging to the Charter House

of Paris, having observed that the cook always left the kitchen upon the ringing of a certain bell, and thus left the coast clear, soon acquired the art of pulling the bell, and during the cook's absence regularly made off with some of the delicacies which were left unprotected. This trick he repeated at intervals for several weeks, till one day he was detected by a person who was placed in watch for the thief.

A singular breed is found in Cornwall and in the Isle of Man, which has no tail. The Angora Cat is a very handsome animal, with its long silky hair and bushy tail: it is a very delicate creature. The Persian Cat is a variety with very long and silky hair, perhaps even more so than the Cat of Angora. The Chinese Cat has the fur beautifully glossed, but it is very different from those we have mentioned: its hair is black and yellow, and its ears hang down. The tortoise-shell Cat is very beautiful and elegant, and, though slight in its form, is active, and among the most grateful and attached of the whole race; male tortoise-shell Cats are rarely to be met with.

The LYNX is found in cold countries in the north of Europe and America. It has erect ears, with the ends tipped with black. Its fur, which is of a

pale gray color, is very valuable, and forms an important article in commerce; the Hudson's Bay Company import every year from seven to nine thousand skins. Its method of running is singular; it arches its back, and bounds along, lighting on the ground on all-fours. It can climb the highest trees, so that the Wild Cat and the Squirrel can not escape it more than the Stag or Hare. It has a meek, pleasant-looking expression in its face, which, however, is not borne out in its habits. When it attacks an animal it always fixes on the throat; and when it has sucked the blood, it leaves the carcass, and thus it does great damage among those Hares and other inhabitants of the forest on which it preys. Its flesh is eaten by the North American natives, and it is said to be very like that of the American Hare.

The CARACAL is a kind of Lynx, found in warm climates. It was well known to the ancients, who had very strange ideas as to its power of sight; they said that it could see through wood and stones, and, therefore, they were in the habit of calling those who had keen, sharp eyes, "*lynx-eyed*." It follows the lordly Lion, and eats the fragments of that animal's spoil; but it feeds chiefly on small animals and birds, which it pursues to the tops of

trees. It can not be tamed ; it snarls and bites at every one who comes near its place of confinement. The length of its body is two feet, and its height fourteen inches.

The CHETAH, or HUNTING LEOPARD, as it is generally called, is found both in Africa and in Asia. It is about the size of the Leopard, but it can not climb trees like that animal. It has much of the nature of a Dog, its body and legs being well adapted for running swiftly. It has along the neck and back a mane of upright hairs. It is very docile : in India the natives teach it to hunt, and it is so gentle that it is led about like a Greyhound. It is carried to the field in a cart with its eyes covered with a hood ; and when it is near the spot where the Deer or Antelopes are feeding, the bandage is removed, and its eyes are directed to its prey. It then creeps off the cart, and steals toward them as softly as it can, taking advantage of every rock and bush in its way, just as a Cat does when about to seize a bird. When it has come within a short distance of the unconscious herd, it makes two or three very long springs right into the midst of them, and having selected one of the number, with a single blow brings its victim to the ground, and immediately fastens on its neck. The keeper then



HYENAS—LYNX—CHETAH.

comes up, who gives it a bowl full of the animal's blood, which having drunk, it suffers him to replace the hood and to lead it back to the cart.

THE HYENA.

There are several kinds of the Hyena ; the Spotted and the Striped are the best known. The Hyena is a very fierce, savage animal. Its fore legs are so much longer than its hinder that it always moves along in a shuffling manner. It holds its head low, and arches its back ; its neck is so stiff that it can not turn round its head, and always shows its teeth as if it wished to bite. Although it is such a frightful-looking animal, it is very useful, as it prowls about the streets of towns and villages in search of dead animals, and it will eat them even when putrid ; it therefore acts the part of scavenger. It frequently enters grave-yards, and scrapes up the bodies of the dead to feast upon them. Its jaws are so strong that they can crunch with the greatest ease the leg-bone of an Ox.

Bruce, in his travels in Abyssinia, was often annoyed by this animal. One night, as he came into his tent, he saw two large eyes glaring at him in the dark. He called his servant to bring a light, and they found a Hyena standing near the head of the

bed, with several large bunches of candles in his mouth. "I was not afraid of him," says the traveler, "and with a pike struck him as near the heart as I could. Immediately on feeling the wound he dropped the candles and endeavored to run on the shaft of the spear to arrive at me, so that I was obliged to draw a pistol from my girdle and shoot him." Though the Hyena is so fierce, it is sometimes tamed; and Bishop Heber says that he saw in India a Hyena following a man like a dog.

Before its meals the Hyena utters a peculiar cry, from which it is often called "the laughing Hyena."

CIVETS.

The CIVET CAT is an active little animal, being about two feet in length. It is a native of Abyssinia in Africa. Great numbers of them are brought to Europe. In Holland it is tamed and kept in a cage. It is celebrated for a valuable perfume, which is contained in a pouch near the tail. This perfume is very strong, and is in appearance like white pomatum. It is taken from the animal two or three times a week. Its cage is made long and narrow, so that the animal can not turn itself, and the keepers may the more easily scoop out the perfume from the pouch. In its wild state it feeds on birds and

small animals, but when confined it is fed on eggs and fish.

The Javanese Civet is rather longer than the African variety. It also possesses a bag containing a perfume, which is highly prized by the Javanese: they apply it to their clothes. Persons of rank have their rooms so highly scented with it that they are quite disagreeable to Europeans.

The GENET is very much like our domestic Cat; it is longer and more slender than the Civet. It also contains a perfume like that animal, but not so strong. It is therefore a more agreeable animal than the Civet. It is easily tamed, is very cleanly, and destroys mice, rats, and other nuisances in houses. It is a native of the southern portions of Europe.

The COMMON ICHNEUMON, or PHARAOH'S RAT, as it is sometimes called, is found in great numbers in Egypt, where it is very useful in destroying mice, rats, snakes, and other vermin. It is also an enemy to the huge Crocodile, as it feeds upon its eggs, thereby preventing the increase of that fierce animal. Its long, slender snout enables it to scoop out the contents of eggs with ease. It attacks serpents very boldly, leaping suddenly upon their heads,



CIVET—FERRETS—ICHNEUMON.

which it instantly crushes between its sharp teeth. The total length of this animal is about three feet three inches, the tail measuring about eighteen inches.

There are a great number of animals in various parts of the world very much like the Civets, but little is known of their habits, which is to be regretted, for when we see how useful the Civet, Genet, and Ichneumon are when tamed, these creatures might also prove useful and faithful companions to man.

DOGS.

The Dog family comprises Dogs, Jackals, Wolves, and Foxes.

The Dog is to be found in every part of the world where the foot of man has trodden, and every where is it the same attached and faithful animal. The Dog is a great blessing to man. It watches and defends his property by night, and is his willing servant and his faithful friend during the day. The rude Esquimaux and the savage Indian alike find it necessary for their enjoyment, and in all ages and in all countries has it been cherished for its services. What perfect faith, what sincere love has the Dog toward its master!

It will follow him through want and poverty, it will risk its own life to save his, and cases have even been known where Dogs have died of grief for his loss.

There are a great many different breeds of Dogs; we have room only to mention a very few of them.

We begin with that noble animal, the **NEWFOUNDLAND DOG**. This fine animal was brought at first from Newfoundland. In that island it is taught to draw sledges and carriages. It is a most faithful creature. It is very fond of water, and many are the cases in which it has saved the lives of those who but for its timely aid would have been drowned. One day a vessel was driven on the coast of Kent. It contained eight men, who cried piteously for help. The sea was so rough that no boat could put off to their assistance. At length a gentleman with his Newfoundland Dog came on the beach. He directed the attention of the animal to the vessel, and put a short stick in his mouth. The Dog at once saw what his master meant. He sprang into the sea, and fought his way through the waves. He could not, however, get close enough to the vessel to deliver the piece of wood, but when the crew threw him a piece of wood with a rope tied to it, he dropped his own and seized that which had been thrown to him, dragged it through the

waves, and at length laid it at his master's feet. A means of rescue was thus formed, and every man on board was saved from a watery grave.

There are few Dogs which are able to fetch and carry better than the Newfoundland Dog. It always likes to have some article in its mouth. It can be trained to fetch any object that may have been left, even at a great distance. A gentleman was on a visit to a friend, and had taken with him a fine Newfoundland Dog. Being fond of reading, he was in the habit of taking his book with him in his daily walks. On one occasion he had been so absorbed in his book that he had staid far longer than he had intended; so, hastily pocketing it, he made his way home as quickly as possible. Just as he arrived at the house, he found that he had left behind him his gold-headed cane, which, being the gift of a dear friend, he valued very much. He would have sent his Dog to look for it, but it happened that he had gone out with some one else for a walk. However, as soon as the Dog arrived, he explained his loss to the animal, and desired him to fetch the missing cane. The Dog ran off to obey the command of his master. While they were in the middle of dinner, a great uproar was heard in the hall—sounds of pushing and shuffling, and angry voices. Present-



WATER SPANIEL—COACH DOG—NEWFOUNDLAND DOG.
E

ly in rushed the Newfoundland Dog, bearing in his mouth the cane. He would not allow any hand but his master's to take it from his mouth, and it was his resistance to the attempts of the servants to do so that caused the commotion in the hall.

We give another instance of the sagacity of this noble animal. A gentleman, accompanied by his Newfoundland Dog, was riding with a friend one day, when the Dog became the subject of conversation. Having praised the qualities of his favorite very highly, the owner assured his companion that he would, upon receiving the order, return and fetch any article he should leave behind, from any distance. To confirm this, a marked shilling was put under a large square stone by the side of the road, being first shown to the Dog. The gentlemen then rode for three miles, when the Dog received his signal from the master to return for the shilling he had seen put under the stone. The Dog turned back, the gentlemen rode on, and reached home; but, to their surprise and disappointment, the hitherto faithful messenger did not return during the day. It afterward appeared that he had gone to the place where the shilling was placed, but the stone being too large for his strength to remove, he had staid howling at the place till

two horsemen, riding by, and attracted by his seeming distress, stopped to look at him, when one of them, alighting, removed the stone, and, seeing the shilling, put it into his pocket, not at the time conceiving it to be the object of the Dog's search. The Dog followed their Horses for twenty miles, remained undisturbed in the room where they supped, followed the chambermaid into the bedchamber, and hid himself under one of the beds. The possessor of the shilling hung his trowsers upon a nail by the bedside; but when the travelers were both asleep, the Dog took them in his mouth, and leaping out of the window, which was left open on account of the heat, reached the house of his master at four o'clock in the morning with the prize he had made free with, in the pocket of which were found a watch and money, that were returned upon being advertised, when the whole mystery was explained, to the admiration of all the parties.

The ESQUIMAUX DOG is very useful to his master in drawing sledges and carrying heavy loads. It is rather smaller than the Newfoundland Dog. Its ears are short and erect, and its bushy tail curves elegantly over its back; it is furnished with a thick hairy coat well adapted to the climate. When harnessed to the sledge, the Dogs obey the

movement of their leader, who is always a faithful and experienced Dog. This Dog knows its master's voice, and will obey every command given it. Generally this leader is permitted to run its own course, for it is able to scent out the right path with marvelous accuracy even when the thickly-falling snow-flakes have covered every portion of the earth. The Dogs are able to travel very great distances over the snow, and have been known to make daily journeys of sixty miles for several days in succession. The teams vary from three to nine Dogs. The Esquimaux is a very cruel master, and has no affection for his Dogs; he feeds them most scantily, and inflicts the severest punishment if they break down in their work from want of nourishment. The poor animals have been known, when suffering from long-continued hunger, to devour their leathern harness, and to fly upon the weaker members of the team, and tear them to pieces; it is not then surprising that the Esquimaux Dogs have no affection toward their cruel masters. When placed under the care of one who is kind, they are most affectionate animals, and display great reasoning powers.

The WATER SPANIEL delights in plunging into water, and is of great use to the sportsman when

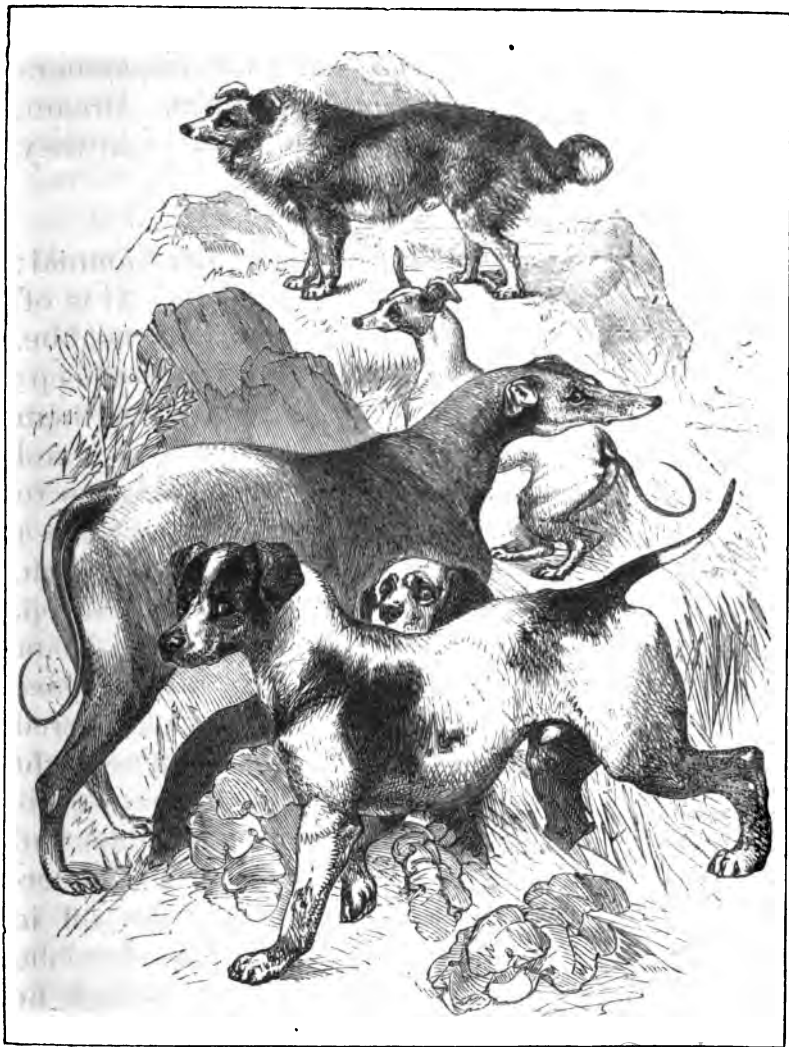
shooting Wild Ducks or Water Hens. Its coat is supplied with a kind of oil, so that when the Spaniel leaves the water, it has only to give itself a good shake, and it is dry in a very short time. Its ears are long, measuring from point to point rather more than the height of the Dog.

The DALMATIAN DOG is better known by its more common name of Coach Dog, which is given to it from its habit of following horses and carriages; from its spotted hide it has received the less honorable name of the Plum-Pudding Dog. The GREAT DANISH DOG is also called the Coach Dog.

The BLOODHOUND is found in America, Africa, and England. In America it is often used to hunt down the poor slaves who endeavor to escape from their sad bondage. The English Bloodhound is often mentioned by old historians. The English, when pursuing King Robert Bruce from one place to another, often called in the assistance of the Bloodhound. One day the king heard the deep baying of the Hound at no great distance from him, and saw that his only chance of escape was to leap into a river and wade up the stream for some distance; he knew that running water would

not retain the scent. The animal led his pursuers to the spot where Bruce had entered the stream, but he could not take them any farther, and they were obliged to give up the pursuit.

The SHEPHERD'S DOG is a rough, wiry animal; but what could its master do without it? It is of more service to him than a hundred boys would be. It seems to know every one of its master's Sheep; and if two flocks are mixed, it can separate them with the greatest nicety. It knows every sign and gesture of its master, and can drive the Sheep to any place he may point out. There was once a famous Shepherd's Dog whose name was Sirrah, who was very clever in managing a flock of Sheep. About weaning-time a shepherd and an assistant had under their care seven hundred little Lambs. At midnight the flock broke away, and scampered off in three divisions across the hills. The night was so dark that the shepherd could not see his Dog; but he called out to him that the Lambs had gone away. The faithful Dog heard and understood what his master had said, and set off in search of the wandering flock. The shepherd did all he could to find the Lambs; but, though he scoured the whole country, he could see nothing of them or of his Dog Sirrah. There was noth-



SHEPHERD'S DOG—ITALIAN GREYHOUND—GREYHOUND—SETTER AND POINTER.

ing for him to do but to go and tell his master that he had lost every one of his Lambs. On his way home, however, he saw a number of Lambs at the foot of a hill, and there, too, was Sirrah standing guard over them. He thought that the Dog had managed to secure one of the three divisions, but how great was his joy when he found that the whole flock were there, and that not one Lamb was missing from their number! How Sirrah had managed to get them all together was indeed a puzzle to his master.

Hundreds of such stories might be told of the Shepherd's Dog; we shall give only one more. One day a shepherd purchased for his master fourscore Sheep. Being obliged to remain where he was for a time, he gave directions to his Dog, which was a female, to drive the Sheep home, which was about seventeen miles distant. The poor animal, after a few miles on the road, dropped two of the Sheep faithful to her charge, and drove the rest farther, and then returned to her master's house, carrying for about two hours. Leaving her Pups, she drove them on, and continued to do so until she had driven all the Sheep and Pups. Two poor Pups were

do then? Why, she went to a place where there were a great many Rabbits, and dug out of the earth two young ones, which she placed on some straw in a barn, and continued to suckle them for some time, till one of the farm-servants, by accident, let a heavy sack fall on them, which smothered them.

The GREYHOUND is the swiftest of the Dog-kind. It has a slender body, a long visage, and a large mouth. It is easily trained for the chase, which it follows more by sight than scent. The Hare tries to escape from it by taking many sharp turns, which the Dog can not do on account of its greater size, and is obliged to go round to reach her, while the Hare makes off in an opposite direction. The Scotch, Irish, and Italian Greyhounds are all varieties of this kind.

The MASTIFF is a bold and trusty watch-dog; its loud bark and its size are well fitted to scare away any intruders on its master's property. It is very strong and active. It has a big, broad head, hanging ears, thick lips, and a noble countenance. It is very sagacious, and shows greater attachment to man than any other of the Dog-kind. Sir Henry Lee had a Mastiff which guarded his house and yard, but was never admitted into the house. One

night, as Sir Henry, attended by his favorite Italian servant, was retiring to his chamber, the Mastiff silently followed them up stairs, and, though they tried to drive him away, he scratched so violently at the door, and howled so piteously, that at last Sir Henry desired his servant to open the door and admit the Dog. The animal, having thus gained an entrance, crept under the bed, and laid himself down, as if intending to remain there for the night. The master, to save farther trouble, allowed it to lie there, and shortly afterward the servant withdrew. In the dead of night, the chamber-door was opened, and some person was heard softly creeping across the room. The Dog immediately sprang from his hiding-place, and pinned the man to the spot. Sir Henry, having awoke from his sleep, rang for lights, when what was the master's astonishment to find that the man was his favorite Italian servant! This man afterward confessed that it was his intention to murder his master, and then rob the house. This horrible design was prevented by the singular sagacity of the Dog, and his devoted attachment to his master.

The BULL-DOG is not so large as the Mastiff. Its head is round, its ears half-pricked, his snout blunt, its neck thick and short. It is well known

for its obstinate courage and fierceness. It has a great hatred to the Bull, and, without barking, will fly upon and seize the fiercest; run directly at its head and pin it to the ground; and it is not easy to make it quit its hold. Indeed, so firm is its hold, that the owner of a Bull-dog once laid a wager that, when his Dog once seized a Bull, he would allow its feet to be cut off rather than loose its hold. The trial was made, and the cruel master won his wager.

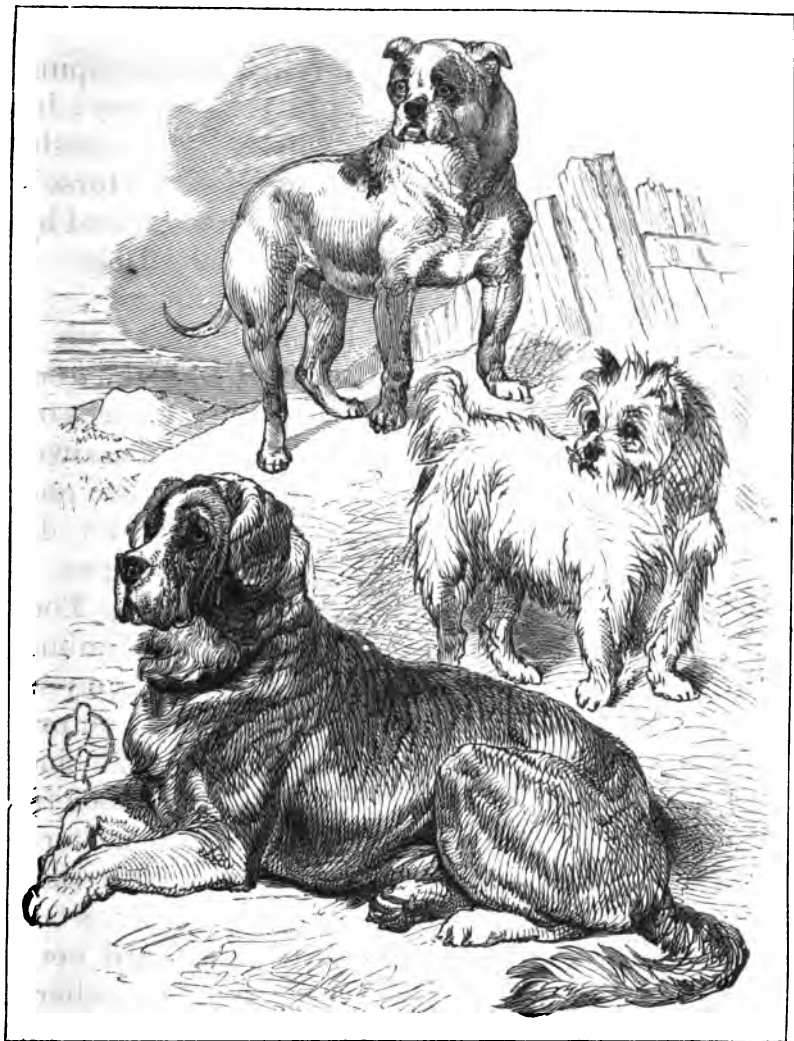
The BULL TERRIER is rather smaller than the Bull-dog. It has the ears always pointed, and the color is commonly white, with some black about it. The following anecdote of one of this kind shows a faculty very closely approaching to reason. One day a gentleman had occasion to call at a house at the entrance to Lyme Regis, and accordingly alighted from his gig for that purpose, leaving his Dog on the driving-box. The horse, from some cause, took fright, and started at a tremendous pace toward the town, with the reins trailing on the ground very close to its feet. In a few seconds, after apparently deliberating how he ought to act, the Dog leaped from the gig and seized the reins in his mouth, pulling them with all his strength, and allowed himself to be dragged for a considera-

ble distance, till he actually succeeded in stopping the Horse by pulling it round into a gateway; he retained a tight hold of the reins, only relinquishing them when some person seized the Horse's head. This extraordinary effort was witnessed by several persons besides the owner of the Dog.

The TERRIER is a small thick-set Dog, with a bearded muzzle, and long, wiry hair. It has erect ears and strong jaws. There are various breeds of them; the Scotch and English are the best known. They are principally used for destroying Rats and other vermin. They are so brave that they do not hesitate in unkenneled a Fox or a Badger.

There is a small variety, called the "Skye Terrier," whose hair is so coarse and wiry, falling heavily over the body and limbs, and hanging so thickly over the face that the eyes and nose are scarcely to be seen, that we are puzzled to find out why it is so highly prized by dog-fanciers. Terriers are very much attached to their masters, and are capable of learning many amusing tricks.

POINTER and SETTER.—These Dogs are very useful to the sportsman in showing him where the game is to be found. The Pointer stands still and "points" at the game it may discover; the



THE BULL-DOG—SCOTCH TERRIER—MASTIFF. Google

Setter is in the habit of "setting" or crouching when it perceives it.

The ST. BERNARD DOGS are well known for the assistance they have rendered to travelers when overtaken by a snow-storm. They are of the Spaniel kind, very powerful, and able to bear the fatigues to which their singular life subjects them. The instant they scent a traveler buried in the deep snow, they give the alarm by setting up a deep bark ; they do not, however, wait till assistance arrives, but at once commence tearing up the snow with all their might. Not many years ago one of these Dogs might have been seen wearing a medal, and regarded with much affection by all. Well had this faithful animal earned this honor, for this Dog had one stormy day rescued twenty-two persons from a snowy grave. But this brave animal afterward met with the very fate from which he had rescued others. At a dangerous time of the year an Italian courier was passing that way, attended by two monks, each furnished with a Dog, one of which was the wearer of the medal, when suddenly a huge mass of snow descended upon them, and all were lost.

Another of these Dogs had served the hospital

for the space of twelve years, and had during that time saved the lives of many persons. Whenever the mountain was wrapped in fogs and snow, he set out in search of lost travelers. He was accustomed to run barking till he lost his breath, and would frequently venture on the most dangerous places. When he found he was not able to draw from the snow a traveler benumbed with cold, he would run back to the hospital and fetch one of the monks. One day this noble animal found a little child in a frozen state. He immediately began to lick him; and having succeeded in restoring animation, and then the perfect recovery of the boy, by means of its caresses he induced the child to tie himself round his body. In this way he carried the poor little creature, as if in triumph, to the hospital. When old age deprived him of strength, he was pensioned off by way of reward. After his death his body was stuffed and deposited in the museum of the city of Berne. The little phial in which he carried a reviving liquor for the distressed travelers whom he found amid the mountains is still suspended round his neck.

Some Dogs have formed strange attachments. One, in a village in Scotland, was to be found at every funeral that took place within the distance of ten

miles. Another preferred the company of the police; and he was continually to be seen trotting about from one station to another, to see if all was going on to his satisfaction. Hence he was called "Peeler." The Fireman's Dog is well known. This Dog, who was called "Chance," first formed an acquaintance with the Fire Brigade, in London, by following a fireman from a conflagration in Shoreditch to the station in Watling Street. Here, after he had been petted for some little time by the men, his master came for him, and took him home; but he escaped on the first opportunity, and returned to the station. After he had been carried back for the third time, his master allowed him to have his own way, and for years he invariably accompanied the engine, now upon the machine, now under the Horses' legs, and always, when going up hill, running in advance, and announcing the welcome advent of the fire-engine by his bark. At the fire he used to amuse himself with pulling burning logs of wood out of the flames with his mouth. Although he had had his legs broken half a dozen times, he remained faithful to his pursuit; till at last, having received a severer hurt than usual, he was nursed by the firemen beside the hearth, when "a call" came, and at the well-known sound of the en-

gine turning out, the poor brute made a last effort to climb upon it, and fell back dead in the attempt. He was stuffed, and preserved at the station, and became, even in death, the fireman's friend; for one of the engineers having committed suicide, the Brigade determined to raffle him for the benefit of the widow; and such was his renown that he realized **£123 10s. 9d.**

The smallest of the land Spaniels is the **COCKER**, which is chiefly used for flushing Woodcocks and Pheasants in thickets and copses into which the Springer and the Setter have difficulty in entering. A beautiful female of the Cocker breed showed toward her mistress the fondest affection. One morning, as she was lacing her boots, one of the laces broke. She turned to the Dog, and playfully said, "Oh dear, I wish you would find me another boot-lace;" and, having mended the broken one, thought no more of it. On the following morning, when again lacing her boots, the Spaniel ran up to her with a new silken boot-lace in its mouth, to her great amazement and that of the family.

We close our account of **Dogs** with the following very affecting anecdote of an Irish Wolf-dog called

the "Dog of Aughrim." At the hard-fought battle of Aughrim, an Irish officer was accompanied by his Wolf-hound. This gentleman was killed and stripped in the battle, but the Dog remained by his body both by day and night. He fed upon some of the other bodies with the rest of the Dogs, yet he would not allow them or any thing else to touch that of his master. When all the other bodies were consumed, the other Dogs departed, but this used to go in the night to the adjacent villages for food, and presently to return again to the place where his master's bones were only then left. This he continued to do from July, when the battle was fought, until the January following, when a soldier being quartered near, and going that way by chance, the Dog, fearing he came to disturb his master's bones, flew upon the soldier, who, being surprised at the suddenness of the attack, unslung his carbine, he having been thrown on his back, and killed the noble animal.

The JACKAL is found in Asia and Africa; it is rather larger than the Fox; it is covered all over with hair of a bright yellow color. Jackals hunt in packs of fifty or a hundred. They make sad havoc among the smaller animals. They are said to attend on the Lion and Tiger while hunting, and to



JACKALS—WOLF

feast on what these animals do not eat. The Jackal has been called "the Lion's provider," from a belief that it was in the habit of pointing out to that lordly animal where his prey was to be found. Jackals are very useful in the cities of the East; they act the part of scavengers by clearing the streets of the offal which is thrown there by the inhabitants, which otherwise would assuredly cause a pestilence.

The Jackal has a great hatred to the Dog, and sometimes, when pursued by it, has been known to call its comrades to its help. On one occasion, when a pack of Hounds were hunting a Jackal, a much larger pack of Jackals rushed to the rescue, and attacked the Hounds so fiercely that they were not able to take the field for many weeks afterward: even when the hunters came to assist their Hounds, the Jackals flew upon the Horses, and it was with some difficulty that they could be rescued. If not molested the Jackal is a harmless animal, and will suffer a man to pass quite close to him without attempting to bite him.

The WOLF is found in parts of France, Russia, Western Asia, and North America. It was once a great pest in our own country; but a law having

passed that taxes might be paid in the shape of Wolves' heads, they were soon all destroyed. They lingered for some time longer in Scotland and Ireland, but now none are to be seen in a wild state. These creatures hunt in bands, and in winter they are very fierce and daring. They will then attack sledges and carriages, even when protected by armed men. However swift the animal may be that they are pursuing, it is sure to be overtaken by the tireless gallop of the Wolves; and however brave it may be, it must at last fall a victim under the continued attacks of their sharp teeth.

A gentleman was traveling with his servant in a sledge in one of the most dreary forests in Poland, when they were suddenly attacked by a number of Wolves, who leaped furiously at the carriage. The servant, who saw that one of them must perish, exclaimed, "Protect my wife and my children!" and leaped instantly into their midst. The master made the best of the time that the devotion of his servant had given him, drove wildly on, and before the hungry Wolves had come a second time to the carriage, he had reached a place of safety.

Though the Wolf is so fierce, it is a very suspicious animal. A bladder tied to a string has frightened a prowling Wolf from the door of an

Indian wigwam, and a rope trailing from a carriage-window has saved a traveler's life. The cord looked suspicious to the Wolves, and before they had made up their minds how to act, he had reached a place of safety. When young, the Wolf can easily be tamed, and will show as much attachment to its master as a Dog.

When once a Wolf is entrapped it becomes the most cowardly of all animals, and will permit itself to be handled in any way without showing the slightest sign of resistance. On one occasion, a pitfall-trap was found to contain two occupants, a Wolf and a poor old woman, who had unfortunately fallen into it when returning from her work. The Wolf was so cowed by finding itself in the trap that it seemed to lose its savage nature, and made no attempt to injure its fellow-prisoner: it lay quietly at the bottom of the pit till the morning, when it was shot by a peasant.

A farmer, having lost many of his Sheep by the ravages of Wolves, determined to take his revenge by means of pitfalls, of which he dug several within easy distance of his house: they were eight feet in depth, and wider at the bottom than at the top. Into one of these traps three Wolves had fallen; two of them being black, and the other a brindled ani-

mal. To the very great astonishment of a gentleman who was on a visit to him, the farmer leaped fearlessly into the pit, pulled out the hind legs of the Wolves as they lay trembling at the bottom, and with his knife cut the chief tendon of the hind legs, so as to prevent their escape. The farmer thus managed to get their skins, which were very valuable, and thus, in some degree, helped to repay himself for the damage caused by the loss of his Sheep.

Like the Fox and some other wild animals, the Wolf will pretend to be dead when it has fallen into the hands of its enemies, and finds that escape is hopeless. A Wolf had been caught by Captain Lyon, and brought aboard his vessel to all appearance dead; but as the eyes were seen to wink when an object was passed quickly before them, a rope was fastened to its hind legs, and it was suspended from the rigging with its head downward. Not liking its position, it threw aside all disguise, and began to snap in all directions, trying to attack those who were nearest to it, and curling itself up to bite the rope asunder. It was so full of life that it required several blows on its head, and the employment of a bayonet, to kill it.

The Wolf produces from three to nine young at a litter. The nest in which the young are reared

is warmly lined with moss and with the fur of the mother, which, like the Rabbit, she pulls from her own body. They remain under the care of their parents for about eight months. They begin to eat meat at four or five weeks of age, and are taught by their parents to join in the chase.

The Fox, as every one knows, is a sly, cunning animal, and "as cunning as a Fox" has passed into a proverb. It is to be found in almost every part of the world. In form it resembles the Dog. The usual color of the English Fox is a dull red; the whole of the under parts of the body and the tip of the tail are commonly pure white: the tail, which is long and bushy, is called the "brush." In the Fox cunning supplies the place of strength. It lies concealed in its burrow through the day, and when night comes it goes forth in search of food. It is the terror of the poultry-yard, and very often destroys all the Hens and Chickens it contains. It is said that it kills the Cock first, lest it should sound an alarm. If it can not devour all it has slain, it carries some to its home, which is a hole in the ground, and buries it for some future meal. It would be too great trouble for the Fox to chase the Rabbit or the Hare, so it waits quietly where it knows these



FENNEC—ARCTIC FOX—COMMON FOX.

animals are in the habit of passing, and pounces upon them. When in search of young Rabbits it does not go into their holes, where it might have some difficulty in returning, but, guided by its scent to the exact spot where the young ones are, it digs a hole straight down to them, and so gets its prey with little trouble.

The skin of the Fox has a strong and unpleasant smell, and this smell enables the Fox-hounds to follow it. Fox-hunting is an old English sport, and is much engaged in to the present day.

Many are the tales of the cunning of the Fox. A tame Fox that was kept in a stable-yard was on very friendly terms with several of the Dogs, but he could never induce the Cats to come near him. Cats have very keen smell, and the odor arising from his body was displeasing to them : they could not walk on any spot where the Fox had been standing, and kept at as great a distance from him as possible. The Fox soon saw the distaste of the Cats to his company, so he made use of his knowledge to cheat them out of their breakfasts. As soon as their allowance of milk was poured out, he would run to the spot, and walk round the saucer, knowing that then none of the Cats would approach the defiled place. Day after day were the Cats deprived of their milk ; but the trick of the

Fox having been discovered, it was removed to some place where he could not get at it. The **Fox**, not relishing being deprived of his morning draught, fell upon another plan for obtaining it. The dairy-maid was in the habit of passing through the yard where the **Fox** was, so he managed to go up to her, and brush himself against one of the pails; the milk immediately was so tainted with the smell of the **Fox** that the dairy-maid did not venture to take it into the house: so she poured it out into a vessel, and gave it to the **Fox**. He repeated this several times with success; but the spoiled milk having been given to the **Pigs**, he left off troubling himself about it.

A cunning **Fox** has been seen fishing for **Crabs**. And how do you think he set about it? Why, he let down the end of his tail into the shallow water among the rocks on the sea-shore, and as often as the silly **Crab** seized this curious bait, he hauled them up and devoured them.

As we have seen with the **Wolf**, so, when a **Fox** is caught, he also very often pretends to be dead. One day a peasant, finding a **Fox** plundering a farm-yard, struck it with such force that he thought he had killed it. So he took it up by the tail, and slung it across his back, with the intention of boast-

ing to his neighbors of the valiant deed he had done; and perhaps looking forward to having some nice warm article of clothing out of its skin. But while the man was thus thinking, the Fox, finding hanging by his tail not the most comfortable position, gave that part of the man's body near which his mouth was a sharp bite. The astonished peasant at once let go his hold of the Fox, which scampered off, leaving the man in a state of fright and pain.

On one occasion a Fox, hard pushed by the Hounds, suddenly disappeared, and was, after a long search, found immersed in a pool of water up to the very snout, by which he held a willow-branch which hung over the pool.

There are many kinds of Foxes. Of these the ARCTIC Fox is the most interesting. This animal changes its fur, which is of a brownish-gray during the summer, to a pure white during the winter; its hair also becomes long and woolly.

There is a little Fox in South Africa which is in great request, as its fur is very valuable. It is called the CAAMA. It is a great enemy to the Ostrich and to other birds which lay their eggs on the ground. The eggs of the Ostrich are very

large and hard, and the Caama being a small animal, its teeth can not make any impression on them. However, the little cunning animal manages to get the contents by rolling the egg along by means of its fore paws, and pushing it violently against a stone or any hard substance it may meet.

The FENNEC is the smallest of the Fox family. It is scarcely a foot in length, exclusive of its bushy tail, which is about eight inches long. It is, with its slender body, its sharp-pointed snout, and its extremely long ears, a quaint-looking little animal. It is very active and lively. It is fond of fruit, especially of the date: it is singular how this little creature manages to procure this fruit, for the date-palm is of lofty growth, and the fruit is placed at the summit of its bare and branchless stem. Its skin is of great value among the native tribes of Africa, of which continent the Fennec is a native.

WEASELS.

The various animals which form the family of WEASELS have for the most part long, slender bodies, and short limbs, which enable them, when

pursuing their prey, to wind their little bodies through the smallest openings. Most of them are of small size, but they make up for this by their fierce and bloodthirsty habits. They prey on rabbits, and rats, and birds; and when they seize their victim, they dart upon its throat, piercing it through with their sharp teeth. They are nocturnal animals, passing the greater portion of the day in their dark holes, and sallying out at night in search of food.

Though Weasels are so destructive to poultry and rabbits, yet they are very useful to man on account of the beautiful fur with which their bodies are clothed. It is from some members of this family that the snowy Ermine and the valuable Sable are procured.

The PINE MARTEN receives this name from its being found in those places where pine-trees abound, and from its habit of climbing those trees in search of its prey. It robs nests, destroying eggs and young ones, and frequently, also, the parent birds. It does great damage to poultry and to young lambs. A farmer who had twenty-one lambs found one morning that fourteen of them had been killed by some animals who had not eat-



PINE MARTEN—POLECAT—ERMINE—WEASEL.

en their flesh, but contented themselves with sucking their blood. On the following night the remaining seven shared the same fate, and the next morning the destroyers—a pair of Martens—were seen taking their departure from the scene of their bloody doings. They were traced to their retreat, which was a deserted Magpie's nest. They are very fond of making their homes in birds' nests; generally they prefer that of the Magpie. A boy was bird's-nesting one day, and had climbed to the top of a lofty tree to plunder what he supposed was a Magpie's nest. Having squeezed his hand through the narrow entrance, he was soon made aware by a sharp bite that no Magpie was at home there. The fur of the Pine Marten is not much inferior to that of the Sable, if killed in the winter.

The SABLE is well known for its costly fur, which is thought worthy to adorn the richest robes of kings. It is found in Siberia and the northern portions of America. Many are the dangers and great the privations which the Sable-hunter must encounter. Frequently he loses his life in the snow-storms which are so common in those parts where the Sables dwell. These animals are found near the banks of rivers and in the thickest parts of the forests. They generally live in holes in

the earth; sometimes they make their nests in the hollows of trees. Their nests are soft and warm, being made of moss and dried leaves. There are many ways by which these creatures are caught, care always being taken not to damage their valuable furs. They are traced to their dwelling by the marks of their feet in the soft snow; and a net having been placed over the mouth of their holes, a certain kind of smoke is thrown into them, when the Sable is forced to rush into the open air and is captured in the net. At other times they are caught in traps. If you examine closely the fur of the Sable, you will see that it will turn freely in any direction, and when pressed it will lie smoothly. A skin not exceeding four inches broad has been known to fetch as much as fifteen pounds. The tails are sold by the hundred at from four to eight pounds, according to quality. The exiles in Siberia are required to furnish a certain number of skins to the Russian government every year.

The POLECAT is one of the greatest pests the farmer has to deal with. It is most destructive to poultry; it does not content itself with the smaller fowls, but attacks geese, turkeys, and other larger birds. If it get an entrance into a hen-house, it

will kill every one of the inmates. It is very fond of sucking the blood of its victims, and eating their brains. Besides being such a destroyer of animals, it emits from its body a horrid stench, which is quite unbearable. This odor is contained in a pouch near the tail of the animal. It is from this that it has received the name of Foumat or Foul Marten. The Polecat also wages war against the inhabitants of ponds and rivers. It has a "sweet tooth," and will rob the well-defended nests of wild bees. Its hair is very valuable for making artists' brushes.

The FERRET is considered by many of the same species as the Polecat, but there is little doubt that they are distinct. The Ferret came originally from Africa, and often perishes if too much exposed to cold in this country. The box in which it is contained when in a tame state should be lined with some warm substance, or it is sure to pine and die. It is a fierce little animal. It has white fur and red eyes. It is easily tamed; and the farmers employ it to kill rats, and, when muzzled, to drive Rabbits out of their holes.

The STOAT, or ERMINE, is found in this country in great abundance. It has two dresses, a summer

and a winter one. In summer it is a pale brown, like the Weasel; in winter, in this country, it is almost white; in northern countries completely so, except the tip of the tail, which remains black. It is in this state that it is called "ermine," and is killed in great numbers for its beautiful and valuable fur. It is in northern countries that this animal attains its greatest perfection, and great care is taken in capturing them. In Norway they are stunned by blunted arrows; in Siberia they are caught in traps baited with flesh.

The WEASEL is the smallest of the group, a full-sized male being about ten inches in length, of which the tail occupies about one fifth. Though it is so small, it is very daring and fierce: it appears to have no fear, either of man or beast. It is of great assistance to the farmer in destroying Rats and Mice; it is very fond of eggs, making a small hole in them and sucking the contents. It has been known to capture full-grown birds. On one occasion it was seen to leap into the midst of a covey of Partridges which had just taken wing, and bring one of them down to the ground: the birds were about two feet from the ground when the attack was made upon them. A Weasel was seen to take a Rook

in a similar manner. A number of Rooks had discovered a Weasel, and commenced teasing it. However, as one of their number made a lower swoop than usual, the Weasel made a sweep at its tormentor and dragged it to the ground. The Rooks, seeing their companion thus treated, made so loud a cawing as to attract the notice of a passing horseman, who arrived at the spot just as the bird had been killed : it lay on the ground dead from a wound in the neck. As soon as the horseman withdrew, the Weasel came out from its hole, and dragged the body under cover of the bushes.

The Weasel produces at each birth four or five, and there are said to be three litters in the course of the year. The nest is composed of dry moss and leaves.

The R^AT^EL is found in great numbers in South Africa. It is generally called the Honey-Ratel or Honey-Weasel, from its fondness for the young and combs of the honey-bee. It is well adapted for its peculiar mode of life. It is covered all over with coarse, rough hair, and this, with its thick, loose skin, protects it from the attacks of the angry insects. When attacked by any of its enemies, it in a few minutes, with its sharp, long claws,



WOLVERINE—RATTEL.

burrows a deep hole in the ground, and thus makes its escape. These claws are very serviceable to it in its bee-hunting expeditions. The bees in that part of the world make their nest in the deserted dwellings of the white ant, or in the forsaken burrows of various animals. It is said to be guided to the bees' nest by a bird called the Honey-Guide, who by a peculiar cry points out to the Ratel where the honey is to be found. The little bird, not being able of itself to attack the hive, receives a share with its stronger ally.

The WOLVERINE is a native of the northern parts of Europe and Asia and of North America. It has, from its greedy habits, received the ugly name of Glutton. Some singular stories used to be told of its exceeding greediness by old writers. It chiefly feeds on animals which have been killed by accident. It is very destructive to the traps of the Ermine-hunter. It will follow his path for fifty or sixty miles to get at his baits; it does not care for the Ermine which may be entrapped, but tears them in pieces and buries them in the snow. Its sense of smell being very keen, it often finds out the hoards of provisions which the hunters have laid up for their winter necessities. In its mode of

walking it resembles a Bear. It is a good climber of trees. Though it can defend itself from the attacks of other animals, it is easily frightened by the hunter, who can kill it with a stick.

The SKUNK is a beautiful little animal about the size of a Cat. It is of a blackish-brown color, with black stripes down its back, and has a long bushy tail. It digs its hole in the ground, scratching up the earth with the long, curved nails of its fore feet. It is very slow in its motions, and would, in consequence, be an easy prey to its numerous enemies, but it is provided with a weapon which causes the strongest and the fiercest to beat a retreat. This weapon is a most disagreeable odor, which it keeps in some glands near the tail, and when it is pursued by men or beasts it allows them to come close up, and then spirts it all over them. The stench of this is most unbearable, and the little creature is left master of the field. If any of the fluid touch the clothes, it takes months before the smell can be got rid of. It is said, however, to be useful to persons troubled with asthma. One day a clergyman who was much troubled with this complaint was performing divine service. He was in the habit, when his cough was very severe, of taking a sniff

of this perfume, which he kept in a tightly-corked bottle. This day he applied it, and having uncorked the bottle, the stench was so strong that it was too much for his congregation, who made a hasty retreat, leaving him almost alone in the church.

The BADGER is found in Europe and Asia. It is a very harmless, inoffensive animal. It is very cruelly hunted by men, and boys, and dogs; and when people are teased very much they are said to be "badgered." The British Badger is a very curious-looking animal. It has a long snout, small eyes, and a long tail. Its body is thick, its legs short and strong, and the fore feet are provided with claws. The upper part of its body is a dirty gray, while the under is black. On each side of the head it has a black band from the nose to behind the ears. The Badger, besides being much persecuted, has had a bad name given to it, "as dirty as a Badger" being a common expression; but it is not rightly applied to it, for the Badger in its burrows, which are long and winding, is remarkably clean. In these burrows it passes the day, sleeping on a nice soft bed of well-dried grass. Its food consists of young rabbits, frogs, birds and eggs, insects, and worms. It is a very timid animal, only venturing



BADGER—OTTER.

out of its nest at nightfall. When it is hunted, it sends forth a very offensive smell; if surprised by Dogs, it turns on its back and defends itself with great obstinacy; and the Dogs do not make an easy conquest, for their bites do not much hurt it, as its skin is so rough and coarse.

Badger-baiting was at one time a very common sport in this country; it is not so frequent now. The poor animal was placed in a kennel, and then a number of Dogs were set to worry it; but the Dogs often got the worst, for a Badger's bite is a dreadful thing, as its teeth are very sharp and its jaws strong; and besides this, the jawbone is so jointed to the skull, that when it closes its mouth, the jaw locks itself and retains its hold without any exertion on the part of the animal.

The "pleasure" that people derive from this sport seems to have been which of the two, Dogs or Badger, should mangle each other most. Young Dogs were trained to this sport in a very cruel way. A Badger was caught, and then its under jaw was sawn off, and when thus weak and powerless the Dogs were encouraged to fly at it.

In winter the Badger keeps within its hole, the mouth of which it shuts, both to keep off the cold and to prevent intruders from coming in. When

taken young it is easily tamed, will play with Dogs, and follow its master about. Its flesh makes excellent hams ; those of the South American Badger were thought to be of such an excellent quality that no one was allowed to sell them except to the viceroy, who sent them to the King of Spain every year as a present. Its skin is valuable, and its hairs are largely used in the manufacture of brushes.

A Badger happened to be caught in a trap, which allowed the party who took it to tie a rope to its leg, and drive it home as a countryman does a Pig. Knowing the digging powers of the Badger, it was placed in a paved court. But the next morning it was gone ; it had managed to displace a large stone, and then dig a passage under the wall.

The OTTER is an amphibious animal—that is, it lives both on land and in water. Its feet are webbed ; its nostrils are furnished with a valve, which closes when it dives ; and its lungs being larger than those of quadrupeds of its size, it is able to remain under water for some length of time. It is very destructive to fish, which it brings to land to eat : it does not devour all it catches ; for if it take a salmon, it will eat only a few inches along the back, leaving it otherwise entire. In fact, it is very

common for poor people, who know this habit of the Otter, to go daily to its resort and look for the salmon, which is little the worse for the few mouthfuls the Otter has taken out of it. It is very fierce and shy, and affords good sport to those who hunt it. The hunters, though they go forth furnished with guns, and spears, and dogs, do not find it an easy prey; for by diving, and biting, and hiding under stones and in holes, it gives them a great deal of trouble.

The female Otter has a great love to her young. On one occasion an Otter was deprived of her young ones, and eight days after she was found sitting moodily by the river-side, and allowed herself to be killed without making even an attempt to escape. On skinning her, she was found to be mere skin and bone.

The Otter is easily tamed, and is capable of being taught to catch fish; one is mentioned who was in the habit of bringing to its owner eight or ten in a day. Bishop Heber says that, when he was in India, he saw nine or ten large and beautiful Otters tethered with straw collars and long strings to bamboo stakes in the bank. These Otters were of great service to the fishermen in driving the shoals of fish into the net, or bringing the

larger ones out with their teeth. Was not this a much better use to put the Otters to than to hunt these poor creatures as is done in this country?

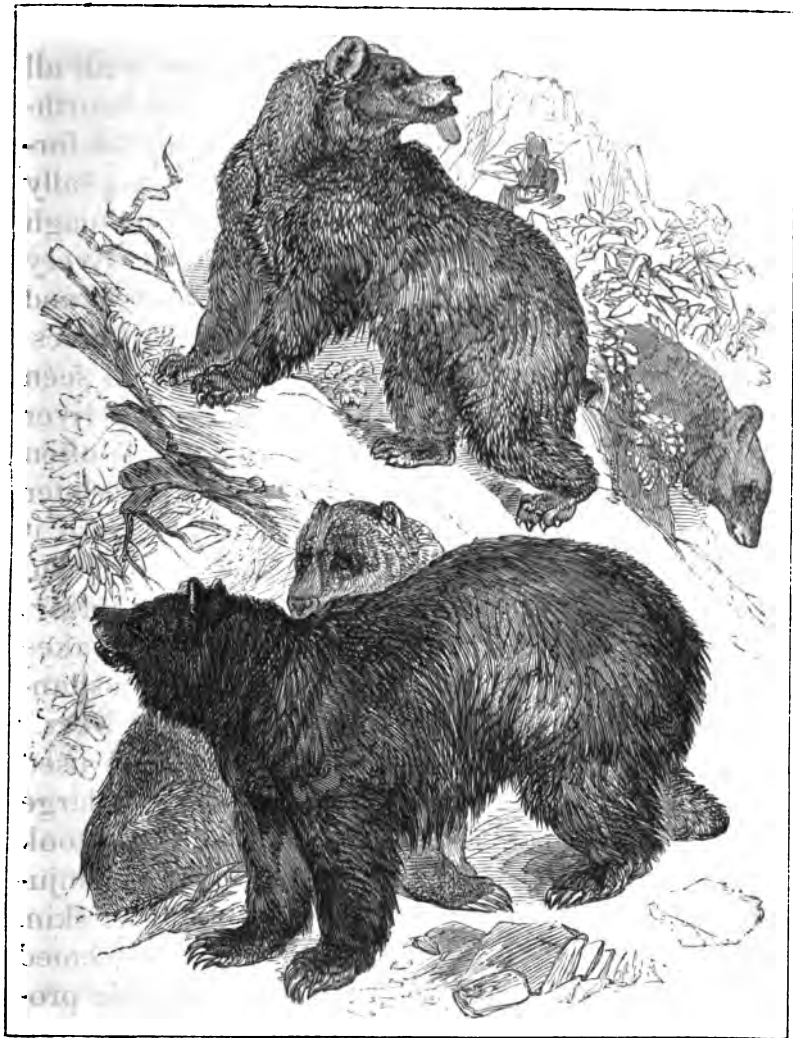
There is a species called the **SEA OTTER**, which is found in the northern parts of the **Pacific Ocean**. It is double the size of the one we have just mentioned, weighing as much as seventy or eighty pounds. Its fur, which is of a black, velvet-looking appearance, and very valuable, is eagerly sought after by British and Russian hunters.

BEARS.

BEARS are heavy, clumsy-looking animals. Very different are they in appearance from the active Cat or the sagacious Dog. Their teeth and their mode of walking are also different. The teeth want the cutting edge and the sharp points possessed by the flesh-eating animals, and show that the Bears can eat both animal and vegetable food. Their claws are large and strong, but blunt, and are without any sheath, and therefore we find that Bears can dig holes in the ground and can climb trees. They walk on the soles of their feet, not like the Cats and Dogs, who walk only on their paws or toes.

The **BROWN BEAR** was once to be met with all over Europe; it is now confined to the more northern parts of Europe, Asia, and America, in the forests of which it finds a secure retreat. It generally feeds on roots, and leaves, and wild berries, though sometimes it picks up some small animals. Every one knows how fond the Bear is of honey; and traps are laid for it in the neighborhood of hives. It is very strong in its fore legs; it has been seen walking along a small tree that bridged a river bearing a dead Horse in its fore paws. It is often to be seen wandering alone in the woods. In winter it retires to some cave or hollow tree, where it makes a bed of branches lined with moss and dead leaves; here it sleeps till the return of spring. When it lies down it is very fat, but when it wakes it is thin and weak. It is then very savage and dangerous, and hence the saying, "As crusty as a Bear."

In former times, in this country, the Bear used to be baited—that is, it was tied to a pole, and large Dogs were set at it, and the spectators cruelly took delight in seeing which would do the greater injury to the other. Bears are hunted for their skin, which is warm; for their flesh, which is esteemed as food; and for their fat, which is used for promoting the growth of the hair.



BLACK, BROWN, AND GRIZZLY BEARS. ed by Google

Savage as the Bear may be when attacked, it is naturally of a kind and playful disposition, as may be seen from the following pleasing anecdotes: Two children of four and six years old had wandered away from home, and being after some time missed, their parents set out in search of them. What was their surprise when they found them playing with a large Brown Bear, who seemed to enjoy the game as well as his companions! One of the children was feeding his shaggy playfellow with fruit, and the other had scrambled on to the animal's back, and was there seated without the slightest sense of fear. The parents, seeing the dangerous position of their children, uttered a terrified scream, when the Bear, seeing them approach, quietly turned away and went into the forest.

A poor Savoyard boy, almost dead with cold, entered a hut where Marco, a Bear belonging to Leopold, Duke of Lorraine, was kept, thinking he might there get some warmth. The Bear, instead of injuring the child, took him between his paws, and warmed him by pressing him to his breast throughout the night; the next morning he suffered him to depart on his rambles through the city. The young Savoyard returned in the evening, and was received by the Bear with the same affection.

For several days the poor lad had no other shelter; and the bear, having come to the conclusion that his young friend had not too much to eat, now regularly reserved for him a portion of his own food. Several days passed before any of the duke's servants knew of these circumstances. One night, however, when the Bear's supper was brought later than usual, the servant was astonished to find the Bear with a little boy clasped to his breast, who was fast asleep. This having been reported to the duke, several of the courtiers became desirous to see this proof of the carefulness of Marco. They watched him through the night, and they saw that the Bear would not move while his little friend was asleep. When the child awoke in the morning, he began to cry when he found he was discovered, and thinking he might be punished, began to pray for pardon. The Bear, however, did what he could to soothe him, caressed him, and tried to prevail on him to eat what had been brought the evening before, which he at length did at the request of the spectators. They then took him to the duke, who was so pleased with the history of this strange friendship that he ordered that care should be taken of the little Savoyard, and would doubtless have advanced him in life had he not died a short time after this.

The Bears of Kamtschatka live chiefly on fish, which they procure for themselves from the rivers. One season the fish were very scarce, and the Bears, driven by hunger, entered the villages in search of food. One day a Bear, finding the door of a house open, entered it, and the door accidentally closed after him. There was on the fire a kettle of boiling water: this the Bear smelt, but it having burnt his nose, he was so maddened with the pain that he began to vent his fury on the kettle. He folded his arms around it, hugged it with all his strength against his breast to crush it—only to be the more severely burnt. His horrible growling from rage and pain now brought the neighbors to the spot, and a few shots ended his misery.

AMERICAN BLACK BEAR.—This animal ranges throughout North America. It is subject to some variation, the most marked being that which is called the CINNAMON BEAR, from its bright red color. A pair of these were presented by the Hudson Bay Company in 1829 to the Zoological Gardens; they lived for above twenty years in the Bear-pit there, during which period they devoured an immense number of buns, provided by the kindness of visitors, for which they were always ready to make an ascent to the top of their pole.

The SYRIAN BEAR is interesting as being the Bear so frequently mentioned in the Bible. The animals which, we are told, came out of the wood and slew the children who insulted Elisha, and the Bear which David killed when he was a shepherd-boy, belonged to the kind which are known to us as the Syrian Bear. At the present day it is found in the mountainous parts of Palestine and on Mount Lebanon.

The GRIZZLY BEAR is a native of North America. It is the fiercest of the Bear family. It is about seven feet in length and four and a half in height. Its general color is black-brown, mingled with light gray. It is very strong, and does not fear either man or beast. It is able to overcome the enormous Bison, and carry its carcass to its den, or dig a pit and bury it. The Indian who kills a Grizzly Bear is ever afterward looked upon as a great hero, and wears the claws as a necklace, just as we see the English soldier wearing medals to show that he has taken part in some great battle. It is said not to be able to climb trees, but this is not correct. If it see a man it at once gives chase, and it has been known to follow him for thirty miles, and then it was only stopped from

farther pursuit by a wide river. The Grizzly Bear is not easily tamed except when captured at an early age. They are then very playful and amusing.

The POLAR or WHITE BEAR is much larger than other Bears. It is found among the ice and snow of the Arctic regions. It is well adapted for living in that severe climate. Its coarse, shaggy fur prevents it from feeling the cold; and the soles of its feet are covered with long hair, which enables it to run with ease on the most slippery ice. It is very fierce, and has been known to seize and carry off a sailor, and devour him in sight of his companions. Lord Nelson, when a young man, nearly lost his life by rashly striking one of these animals with an old musket; in fact, if there had not been a wide cleft in the ice which separated them, it is very likely that England would never have heard of her great sea-captain. It swims well, and is able to chase and catch the Seals and Fish on which it feeds. It often throws up a bank of snow near a Seal's breathing-hole, and lies in wait behind it; as soon as the Seal creeps out from under the ice, the Bear thrusts its paw through an opening, and catches the luckless animal. The Esquimaux have a very



POLAR BEARS.

ingenious way of killing the Polar Bear. They take a stout piece of whalebone, about two feet in length, double it, and put the two ends in a piece of blubber. The blubber is then placed in the open air, where it is soon frozen. The Esquimaux then discover a Bear, and provoke it to chase them. When it is very close to them, they drop the prepared bait. The Bear sniffs, and, finding it is something eatable, swallows it. Soon the heat of the Bear's stomach thaws the blubber, and the whalebone springs open; the Bear finds that it is obliged to give up the chase, and in a short time dies from the inward pain.

The Polar Bear is much attached to her cubs; if they are wounded she prefers being killed to leaving them. Captain Lyon records the capture of a Bear which measured eight and a half feet in length, and weighed 1600 pounds. The female Bear in the Zoological Gardens has lived there upward of eleven years: the male was obtained in October, 1850. When standing on his hind legs, he can reach to the height of ten feet six inches with his muzzle. This bear was caught by the brave men who go to the icy north to catch the monstrous Whales; they kept him confined in a cask not exceeding five feet six inches in length

for three months, and brought him in it to the Zoological Gardens.

The **RACCOON** is found in North America and the West Indies. It is about the size of a Fox. Its skin and fur are very valuable; the latter is used for lining cloaks, and the former for gloves and shoes. The negroes are very fond of its flesh. It has a curious habit of dipping its food, when it conveniently can, in water before eating it. It sometimes goes, like the Fox we have mentioned, a fishing for crabs and lobsters. It drops its long bushy tail into the water; the fish, thinking it is food, seize hold of it, when they are instantly jerked out of the water, and devoured by the "cunning 'Coon," as the Americans call it. It is also fond of oysters: it bites off the hinge of the bivalve, and scrapes out the inside with its paw. It climbs trees in search of birds' eggs, and, like a Squirrel, sits upon its hind quarters, holding its food in its fore paws. The Raccoon will plunder the poultry-yard and sugar-plantations; it has, therefore, many enemies. There is nothing more exciting among the negroes than a Coon-hunt by moonlight.

The **COAITI-MONDI** inhabits the woods of South

America. It is smaller than the Raccoon, and more slender in body. It has a long snout, which it can turn and move about very quickly. This is of great service to it in digging up its food. Its tail, which is ringed black and yellow, is longer than its body, but it often takes a fancy of eating as much of it as it can reach. It lives on little birds, eggs, and worms. It holds its food in the fore paws, and while eating makes a hissing noise. It sleeps during the day rolled up in a ball. It climbs trees very well; and when descending, like the Cat, walks with its head downward. It is not easily tamed, and never shows any affection to its keeper. Its flesh is highly esteemed by the Indians.

The KINKAJOU, in its habits and appearance, is very like the Lemur family. Its tail is prehensile like the Spider Monkey, and is useful to it in climbing trees. Its tongue is long; it is able to insert it into small crevices, and to suck eggs and lick honey, of both of which it is very fond. It robs the bees of their honey, being as fearless of their stings as the Honey Ratel itself. During the day it lies in hollows of trees, from which it seldom stirs till night.



COAITI-MONDI.—RACCOON.

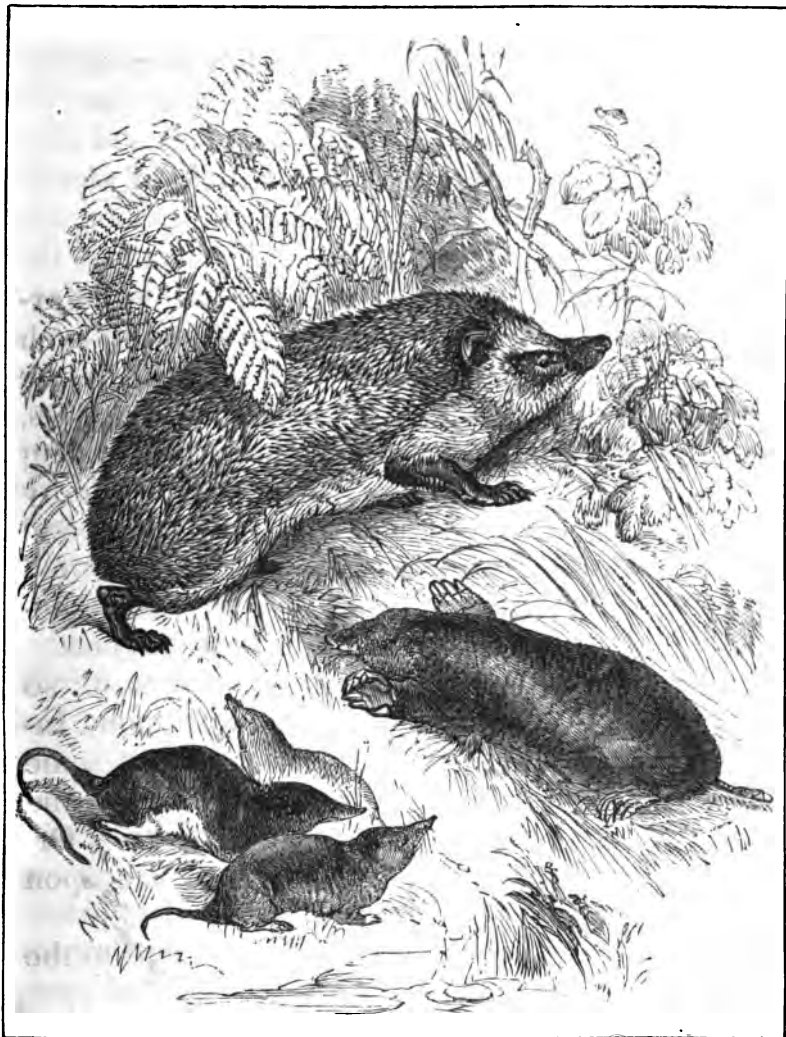
INSECT-EATING ANIMALS.

WHAT a sad calamity to any country is the arrival of a flight of Locusts! They come in such numbers that they darken the sun and cover the earth for miles; they consume the corn, and trees, and grass. That which was a country smiling with peace and plenty is in a few hours made by these Insects a desolate wilderness. Famine, and death, and pestilence follow in their course; and instances are very common where they have destroyed not only villages, but extensive districts.

Happily Locusts do not extend their visits so far north as our country; yet there are many Insects which, if allowed to increase without some check, would prove equally ruinous to man, and therefore many Birds and the animals of this Order—the Insect-eaters—are formed to live upon and destroy them.

The chief Insect-eaters in this country are the Mole, the Shrew, and the Hedgehog.

The MOLE is well fitted for the life God has



HEDGEHOG—MOLE—SHREWS. Digitized by Google

designed that it should lead. Its life is spent under the ground. Its eyes are hidden by fur; its ears can hardly be seen; its hair is soft and fine; and will not retain the slightest particle of mould. Its fore feet, or paws, are composed of five fingers, armed with long sharp nails; and to prevent the earth from stopping up its way, the fore paws are turned outward, so that the earth should be thrown on one side. The hillocks of sand which are to be seen in the fields have been cast up by Moles; and if you carefully take away the upper crust of earth, you would be surprised to see the roads, the galleries, the fortress, and the hunting-grounds made by the little moles in search of the earth-worms which are their food.

Its senses of hearing and smelling are very acute. It can also swim well. It is most active a little after sunrise, and an hour or two after noon; and before rain in summer, and thaw in winter. The country people say that it works "like a horse" for three hours, and then rests for three hours; and it does this throughout the entire day. The color of the Mole is usually of a blackish-gray, but the tints of its fur are very different; and it is not uncommon in a single locality to find Moles of every hue from brown to white. The fur is best when

taken in winter. The skin is very tough and thick, and is frequently made into purses by the peasantry. The female produces four or five at a birth. The nest is made warm and soft with moss and grass, carefully secured against rain and moisture.

The SHREW is much smaller than the common Mouse. In its long snout it resembles the Mole: this long pointed nose is very useful in digging up the ground for the worms and grubs on which it feeds. Its nest, which is often to be found under the roots of trees, is snug and warm, being made of soft grasses and other plants. The Shrew has a strong offensive smell, owing to which Cats, though they kill it, will not eat it; or if they eat it, they are afterward troubled with sickness. Its fur is soft and mole-like, being very glossy when it is alive. The eyes are small and the ears are short, yet the little beasts seem to have great powers of seeing and hearing. About autumn numbers of Shrews are found dead in the roads and woods; and when their bodies are examined, the cause of their death can not be found out. Country people have some strange ideas about these little animals; they say that they are very injurious to horses and cattle, and that if ever they creep over a beast, the

animal is subject to some sad complaint, and is threatened with the loss of some of its limbs; and to avoid this, they apply the twigs and branches of a "Shrew-ash" to the parts touched by the little animal. And what is a "Shrew-ash?" It is an ash in which a hole has been bored, and into which a Shrew has been thrust, and the entrance plugged up.

Besides the Common Shrew, there are the OARED and the WATER SHREWS, also found in this country.

The HEDGEHOG is the only animal found in England covered with sharp spines. These prickles are fixed in the skin in a very simple manner. The hearing of the Hedgehog is very acute; and as soon as it fears any danger, it draws in its head and its feet, and rolls itself into a ball of spikes, from which the Polecat and the Weasel are glad to retire; and even the brave Dog and the cunning Fox are afraid to come near it. Sometimes the latter cunning animal manages to roll it into a pond or puddle, and then the astonished Hedgehog unrolls itself to see where it is and what is the matter, when it is easily seized and killed.

It is a very harmless animal, though at one time

there was a silly fancy that it was in the habit of sucking Cows when lying on the ground ; but a knowledge of the habits of the Hedgehog has caused that idea to be abandoned. It feeds on insects, worms, snakes, toads, and roots ; if kept in a kitchen or room where there are crickets or cockroaches, it soon clears the place of them. Before winter it digs a hole under a hedge, lines it with moss and dry grass, and sleeps there till the spring and warm weather return. The Gipsies are very fond of the flesh of this animal, and roast it over a fire wrapped up in a mass of clay. When thoroughly baked, the clay is opened, and the skin with the prickles comes off with it. The female brings forth from three to five at a birth.

The TENREC, like the Hedgehog, is covered with spines. It is found in Madagascar and the neighboring islands. It has not the power of rolling itself into a ball. It has no tail, and its muzzle is sharp. The female is very fruitful, bringing forth from twelve to eighteen at a birth. It is a favorite dish with the natives of those islands, and is generally split down the back, after being singed like a Pig, and then smoked.

MARSUPIAL, OR POUCHED ANIMALS.

To the southeast of Asia there is a large island called Australia. It is a colony of the British Empire. The plants and animals of that land are very strange, and differ much from those we are in the habit of seeing in our own country. The animals are furnished in the lower part of the belly with a pocket or pouch, in which they keep their young till such time as they are able to run about and find food for themselves; and even after that time, whenever there is any sign of danger, the young animal flees to its mother's pouch for protection. The name of **MARSUPIALS** is given to those animals, from the Latin word *marsupium*, meaning a purse. Some Marsupials, as the Opossum, are found in America.

The largest and most valuable of this Order is the **KANGAROO**. Every child is acquainted with its elegant taper figure, its gentle deer-like face, its short fore feet dangling at its breast as it stands.



KANGAROO.

erect on its long and powerful hind limbs, and its immense broad tail. When it walks on all-fours it limps along very awkwardly; but it is a grand sight to see it trying to escape from the hunter and his dogs. Its mode of progress is then by vast leaps of about fifteen feet in length; and a "boomer," as a large Kangaroo is called, has been known to go on at that rate for eighteen miles. When hard pressed it takes to the water, and then it requires well-trained Dogs to kill it; for it will stand waiting for them, and as they swim up to the attack, it takes hold of them by its fore feet and holds them under water. The buck is very bold; if it can not get to the water, it will place its back against a tree, and then the Dogs have no easy task to overpower it. On the contrary, the doe is very timid, and has even been known to die of fear. The Kangaroo is almost the size of a large Sheep. The flesh is excellent venison. The natives either knock it down with a formidable weapon called a "boomerang," or spear it from behind a bush. The length of the Kangaroo is about five feet without the tail, which is about three feet long.

There are several species of the Kangaroo; one of them, the TREE KANGAROO, is very curious; it hops about on the trees, and has curved claws on

its fore legs to enable it to grasp the branches. The whole of the back and the upper parts of the body are a deep glossy black; the hair is coarse, and resembles that of the American Black Bear. The tail is of great length, and serves as a balance as the animal climbs among the branches. Its food consists of the young bark, twigs, berries, and leaves of the trees on which it lives. It is an inhabitant of New Guinea.

The OPOSSUM is found in North America. It has a large mouth, containing fifty teeth, and on the upper lip numerous long whiskers. Its walk is clumsy and slow on the ground, but among the branches of trees it is very active. Its food consists of birds, small animals, and insects. It is very destructive to the poultry-yard, killing and sucking the blood of as many fowls as it can get hold of. The female has a pouch, like the Kangaroo, where it carries its little ones. She brings forth from ten to sixteen at a birth; at first they are not much larger than beans, helpless and blind; when they get too large for the pouch, she may be seen toiling along with her little ones, about the size of rats, each with a turn of its tail round hers, and clinging on to her back or sides with claws and mouth. Sometimes, like the Monkeys, it will twist its tail

round a branch, and will thus gather fruit or rob the nests of the Oriole and other birds.

The Opossum is a nocturnal animal, and hunting it on moonlight nights is a favorite sport with the Americans. It is pursued for its flesh and fat, whose flavor is said to resemble that of a roasted pig. The Opossum is a very cunning animal; when attacked by Dogs, it will pretend to be dead, and so well does it act its part that it quite deceives its opponents. If the farmer discover it in the act of killing one of the fattest of his hens, his angry feelings cause him to kick the poor beast, which, knowing it is of no use to resist, rolls itself into a ball. The more the farmer kicks, the less the animal seems inclined to resent his treatment; at last there it lies, its jaws open, its tongue stretched out, and its eyes quite dim and glazed. "Surely the animal is dead!" says the farmer, and walks away; but no, it is nothing of the sort; it is only feigning death; and as soon as its tormentor departs, it unrolls itself, looks cautiously around, and makes off to the nearest wood as fast as ever it can. It is very common in America, when any one takes a character he has no right to, to say that he is "'possuming." The Opossum is about the size of a Cat. It sends forth an unpleasant smell when disturbed.

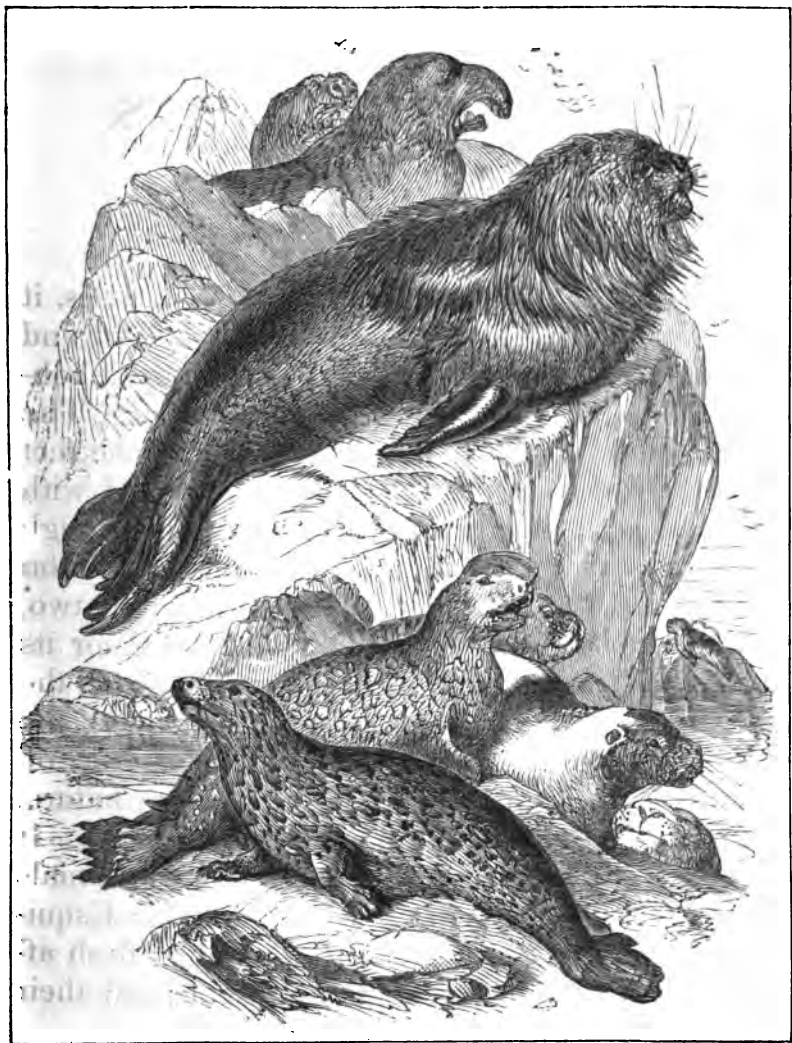


OPOSSUM AND YOUNG ONES.

AMPHIBIOUS ANIMALS.

SEALS.

A SEAL is an amphibious animal; that is, it lives on land and in water. Its feet are short, and so much covered in skin that when on land it hobbles along in a strange waddling manner. The spaces between the toes are webbed, and the feet themselves are wide, so that it is provided with four powerful oars, which enable it to pass through the water with the greatest ease. It is seldom on land, except to bring forth its young, generally two, or to bask in the sun. It is well adapted for its life in the water. The ears are small holes in the head, which it is able to close in the water; the nostrils, when they dive, are shut by a kind of valve; and the bones are of a light, spongy nature, which renders it more buoyant in the water. It is in the most northern regions that these animals abound; and to the Greenlander and the Esquimaux they are absolutely necessary, their flesh affording them food, their skin clothing, and their oil light.



ELEPHANT, MANED, HOODED, PIED, AND COMMON SEALS.

The COMMON SEAL, or SEA CALF, abounds in the northern parts of Europe and America, and may frequently be seen in great numbers on the north and west coasts of Scotland and Ireland, where Seal-hunting is a most exciting sport. The young are taken in nets, which are laid across the mouths of the caves which are the dwelling-places of the Seals, while the older ones are knocked down by clubs as they rush in headlong haste toward the open sea. It is easily killed by a blow on the nose.

The Seal, when taken young, can be tamed. A gentleman in Fifeshire, in Scotland, had one which had all the sagacity of a Dog. It lived in his house, and ate from his hands. It followed him in his fishing excursions, when it afforded much amusement. If thrown into the sea, it would follow the track of the boat for miles; and though thrust back by the oars, it still continued its attempts to enter the boat. It would also bring fish out of the water, and give it to its master. We have heard of another of these animals who was so much attached to its master that, though frequently taken great distances and cast into the sea, it would constantly return to his house. The last time it had been taken farther away from its home than it had ever been before, but not many days after it was found stiff and dead at its master's

door. The previous night had been stormy, and the cold severe, and the poor animal had tried to return to its warm corner by the kitchen fire.

There are many species of the Seal, the **MAR-
BLED**, the **GRAY**, the **HOODED**, the **PIED**, etc.; the largest is called the **ELEPHANT** or **PROBOSCIS SEAL**. It is from twenty to thirty feet in length. Its name is derived from the snout which the males possess, which is something like the trunk or proboscis of the Elephant. This animal is the principal object of the fisheries in the Southern Ocean, as it yields about seventy gallons of oil; its skin is used for making harnesses.

The **FUR-SEAL** is one of the most valuable of this family. It furnishes that fine, soft, close yellowish fur, which was at one time so commonly made into caps for boys. It was formerly very numerous in the islands in the Southern Seas. In the years 1821 and 1822, the number of Fur-Seals taken by English and American ships on the shores of the South Shetland Islands was no fewer than 320,000; but the hunters were so reckless in their destruction of them, killing the mothers before the young were able to take to the water, that the Fur-Seal in a short time was nearly extinct.

The **WALRUS**, or **MORSE**, or **SEA-HORSE**, resembles the **Seals**, but is much more clumsy. It is a very large animal: it attains the length of fourteen feet. It is covered with short yellowish hair. Its head, which is small when compared with its body, often deceives people with regard to its size. From the upper jaw two enormous tusks project; these are frequently two feet long, as white and as hard as ivory: they are much used by dentists in making artificial teeth. The tusks are of great use to the animal in assisting it to get on the ice, and in warding off the attacks of the **Polar Bears** and other animals. It is valuable on account of its oil and its skin, which is used for making coach-traces. They are to be seen in herds of hundreds on the ice, huddled together like so many swine, rolling and sporting about, and making the air resound with their bellowing, which is very like that of the **Bull**. One of their number is always on the watch, and at the slightest sign of danger it gives the alarm, when they all tumble into the water in the greatest confusion. It is not easy to kill them, and they have been known to stave in and sink a boat. The mothers carry their young ones between their fore arms or on their backs, and are much attached to them. The flesh of the Walrus is much esteemed.



WALRUSES.

WHALES.

PERHAPS you will be surprised to find an account of the Whale in a book like this. Because the Whale lives in water, you have settled in your mind that it must be a fish. But it is not so; the Whale, like other Mammalia, has warm and red blood; it can not live altogether under the water, but is obliged to rise to the surface to breathe, while fishes can get sufficient air to live from the water through their gills. The Whale, too, like the beasts of the earth, brings forth its young living, and suckles them with milk from its breasts.

When we consider the size of the great Whales, nothing shows more clearly the power of man over the lower creation than his ability to subdue them. The Whale is six hundred times the size of a man, and a single stroke of its tail could hurl a large boat into the air or dash it to pieces, yet it is successfully attacked, and made to minister to the necessities and comfort of man. Thousands of men and hundreds of ships are engaged in the pursuit of this enormous animal. The English, the Americans, and the Dutch are the nations who chiefly carry on this dangerous occupation.

A study of the body of the Whale would show how well it is adapted for its life in the sea. The fatty matter which covers its body makes it buoyant, and enables it to rise to the surface of the water with ease ; it also protects it from the extreme cold of the regions where it lives. The Whale can descend to a great depth in the water : it has been known to take down in a straight line nearly eight hundred fathoms of line. The pressure of the water at such a depth as this is immense, and would certainly burst the nostrils and enter the lungs were not the nostrils so formed that the greater the pressure the closer they become. Again, the Whale is often half an hour under the water at a time ; and to provide for this, it is furnished with a large number of blood-vessels, which act as a reservoir, which it uses as circumstances require.

The GREAT GREENLAND WHALE is found in the northern regions. It is about sixty feet in length. Every year a great number of ships are fitted out to capture this animal for the oil and whalebone which its body furnishes. The oil is procured from the fatty substance called "blubber," which lies immediately under the skin. Whales have been caught which have yielded thirty tuns of oil ; and those yielding twenty are not uncommon. The whale-

bone is produced from a number of plates found in the inside of the mouth. The Whale, in feeding, opens its jaws as widely as possible, and in rushes a large quantity of water containing the small sea-animals which it chiefly feeds on. The Whale strains the water through the fringes of whalebone and retains the animals. The Whale has no teeth, and these plates take the place of them. Before the whalebone is made into strips, it is boiled for about twelve hours to make it soft. When the mouth of the Whale is open, it is capable of holding a ship's jolly-boat and crew. Its chief power lies in its tail; when it lashes the water, the sound is like thunder, and one stroke will throw a boat with all in it high into the air. Its ear is a small aperture covered by the skin. Its eyes, too, are small.

The most important weapon in whale-fishing is the Harpoon, which is a spear with a head like the flukes of an anchor; the edges of the barbs are kept sharp, so that the harpoon may penetrate beyond the blubber into the flesh. To the harpoon is fastened a long and very strong line, about four thousand feet in length. This is kept ready coiled in a tub at the head of the boat, and great care is taken that it be not entangled. It runs through a pulley, as the friction is so great when the struck Whale dashes



GREAT GREENLAND WHALE. Digitized by Google

off, that if the rope is out of its place the boat may be set on fire. A bucket of water is always at hand to throw on the rope. If the whole of the line is run out, that of another boat is fastened to it, and sometimes a Whale has carried off three miles of line with it. The use of the harpoon is to hold the Whale; in order to kill it, the whale-fishers have another weapon called the "Lance," which is a long, slender steel weapon, with a very sharp head. The boats always approach the whale from behind, so that they may not be seen. As soon as a Whale is struck it dashes away, but when it has been under the water some time it is forced to come to the surface to breathe. The whalers know how long the fish will remain under the water, and calculate where they may look for it to rise, and are ready at the spot to thrust their sharp lances into its flesh. Blood mingled with water is soon discharged from the Whale's nostrils, or "blow-holes," which is a sure sign that it will soon die. Presently streams of blood are cast up, and after a few violent struggles the Whale turns over on its side and dies. The carcass is then towed to the ship, and the blubber and the whalebone taken from it, and the remainder is left to the Sharks and Gulls.

The Whale shows great attachment to its young,

which is called a "cub." When danger is near, it takes hold of it by its upper or fore arm, and tries to drag it out of danger. The sailors take advantage of this attachment, and harpoon the cub, knowing that the mother will come to its assistance. In the year 1811, one of these cubs was struck by a harpoon. Presently the mother rose close by the boat, and, seizing the young one, dragged about one hundred fathoms of line out of the boat with great force and swiftness. Again she rose to the surface, and darted here and there, and seemed in a sad state of concern for her wounded young one. She continued to act in this way for a length of time, though closely pursued by the boats, and in her love for her offspring she seemed altogether regardless of any danger to herself. At length one of the boats approached so near that a harpoon was thrown at her. Yet she did not attempt to escape, but allowed boats to approach, so that in a few minutes several more harpoons were fastened in her, and in the course of an hour she was killed.

The Whale is said to attain its full growth in twenty-eight years; but how long it may live is not known. The Esquimaux and the Greenlander are much indebted to it. The flesh and fat are eaten, and the oil drunk by them with great greediness.

The bones are made into harpoons and spears; the sinews, when split, are used as threads to sew their clothes, and the seams of their boats and tent-cloths; and other portions of its body are employed as articles of clothing, or for windows for their huts.

The CACHALOTS, or SPERMACETI WHALES, are to be found chiefly on the South American coast, in large herds, sometimes amounting to one hundred, consisting for the most part of females, under the guidance of one male of enormous size. The head is very large, and blunt in front; it is in the habit of swimming to some distance from a ship, and then rushing with all its strength with its head against the boat and dashing it to pieces. A whale-ship was once sunk by three or four blows of this creature's head. It has not, like the Greenland Whale, the plates of whalebone, but is provided with a terrific row of teeth in the lower jaw fitting into holes in the edge of the upper one, which are sometimes employed in seizing the boat. The oil obtained from the Cachalot is very pure, and is used to give light and to oil machinery. Spermaceti is found in great abundance in the fatty structure of the head.

Ambergris, the nature of which was so long unknown, is now found in the intestines of the Cachalot. It is used in this country as a perfume. The length of the Cachalot is over seventy feet.

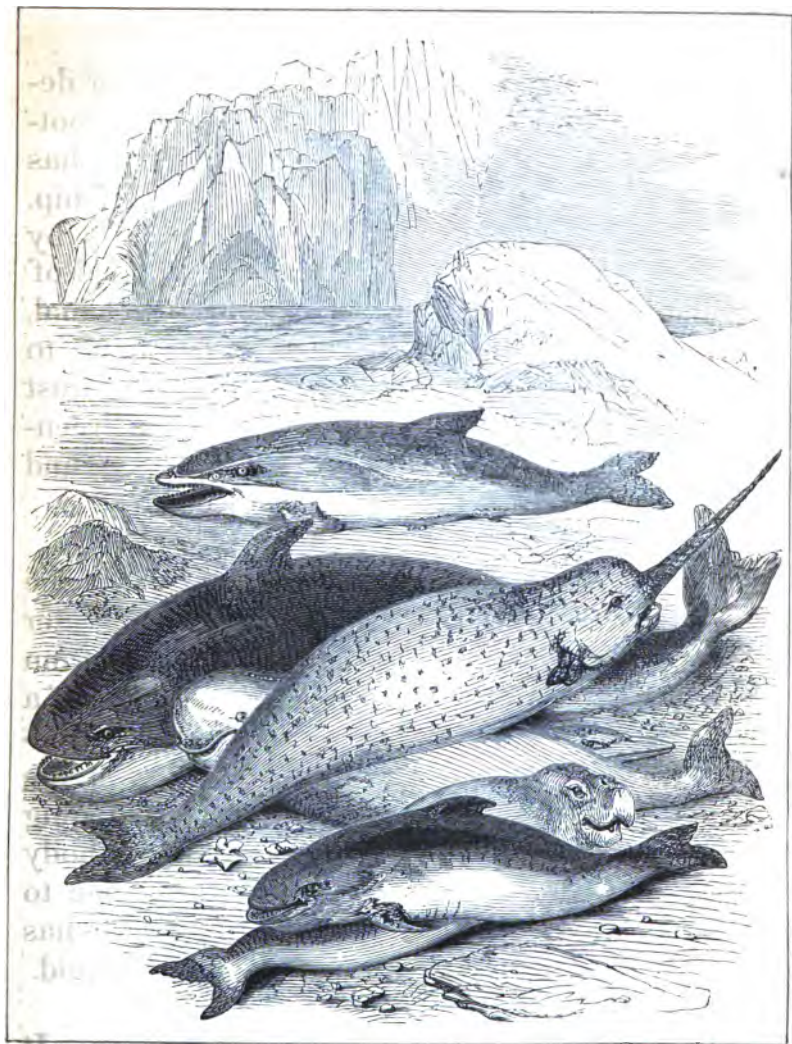
The DOLPHIN is, like the Whale, a warm-blooded animal, and is obliged to come to the surface at intervals to breathe. It is found in great numbers in warm latitudes, and is the chief enemy of the Flying-fish. Whenever the Dolphins see a vessel they immediately swim toward it, as if curious to know what monster has invaded their domain. Having arrived, they frolic and play about in a very sportive manner. This playfulness and apparent love to man were known to the ancients, and this animal was a great favorite with them; but very little of what they said respecting it is true. Its length is from six to ten feet. Its flesh was at one time in great request; it is now only eaten from curiosity.

The NARWHAL, or SEA UNICORN, inhabits the Northern Ocean, though sometimes it has found its way to our coasts. It is from thirty to forty feet in length. The Narwhal is known by a long spiral tusk, which is from six to ten feet in length, and as hard as ivory. It is not known what use these tusks

are put to ; some persons say that they are for defense, and others that they are employed for rooting up plants. This horn is so strong that it has been known to pierce the oak timbers of a ship. The Narwhal is taken by the Greenlanders by means of a harpoon having a buoy at one end of it. This buoy is not only to harass the animal, but also to give them notice when it is about to rise. As soon as it reaches the surface, they thrust a lance into it. It is of great service to the Greenlanders, as he procures from it oil, and food, and weapons of warfare.

The MANATEES, or SEA COWS, are found in the West Indian Seas. They frequently leave the water and browse on the tender herbage. They are from eight to ten feet in length, and are of the size of a large Ox. Their flesh is much liked by the Mosquito Indians, who watch them sporting on the surface of the water, and kill them by harpooning them. As they raise the upper part of their body above the water, they bear some resemblance to the human body ; and it is supposed that it has given rise to the stories of the fabulous Mermaid.

The DUGONG is found in the Eastern Seas. It is similar in its habits to the Manatee. It is often



DOLPHIN, GRAMPUS, NARWHAL, PORPOISE, ETC.

seen browsing on the plants at the bottom of the ocean. Its flesh is considered to be very delicate.

The **PORPOISE**, which differs from the Dolphin in having a smaller muzzle, is found on our coast. It may be seen in shoals near the mouths of rivers, tumbling, rolling, and sporting about in a most playful manner. In ancient times its flesh was held in high esteem. It is a most voracious animal, and its great feasts take place when the shoals of herrings or pilchards arrive off our coast. It is between four and five feet in length, the upper part a deep black, but white on the under part.

The **BELUGA** is from twelve to eighteen feet long. In swimming it bends its tail under its body like a lobster, and thrusts itself forward with the rapidity of an arrow. It is found in the Arctic Seas, and is caught for its oil and its skin.

The **GRAMPUS** grows to the length of twenty-five feet; it is very thick in proportion to its length. Its nose is flat, and turns up at the end. It has thirty teeth in each jaw. The spout-hole is on the top of the neck. The color on the back is black; the belly of a snowy whiteness; on each shoulder is a large white spot. It is a very greedy fish.

RODENTS, OR GNAWING ANIMALS.

THE RODENTS, OR GNAWING ANIMALS, form another division of **Quadrupeds**. They receive this name from their habit of gnawing or filing their food. The **Rodents** are distinguished from other animals by their teeth. They have no canine teeth, like the **Cat** family, which seize and destroy their prey; they have only two kinds of teeth, called "incisors" and "molars." Each jaw is furnished with two large incisors, the edges of which are always sharp. The **Rodents** live on some part or other of the vegetable kingdom; some eating grass, and others hard wood or dry bark. The incisors are long and deep set; they have no fangs, but grow from the root as they are worn away, so that if by any accident one of them is lost, the one opposite, having nothing to stop its progress, continues to grow till it has reached a monstrous length: this is frequently the case with **Rabbits** or **Rats**; the poor-unfortunate animal, not being able to take any food, is actually starved to death. In most of the **Rodents** their hinder quarters are larger than

the front, so that they leap rather than run, as you may see in the Rabbit or Hare.

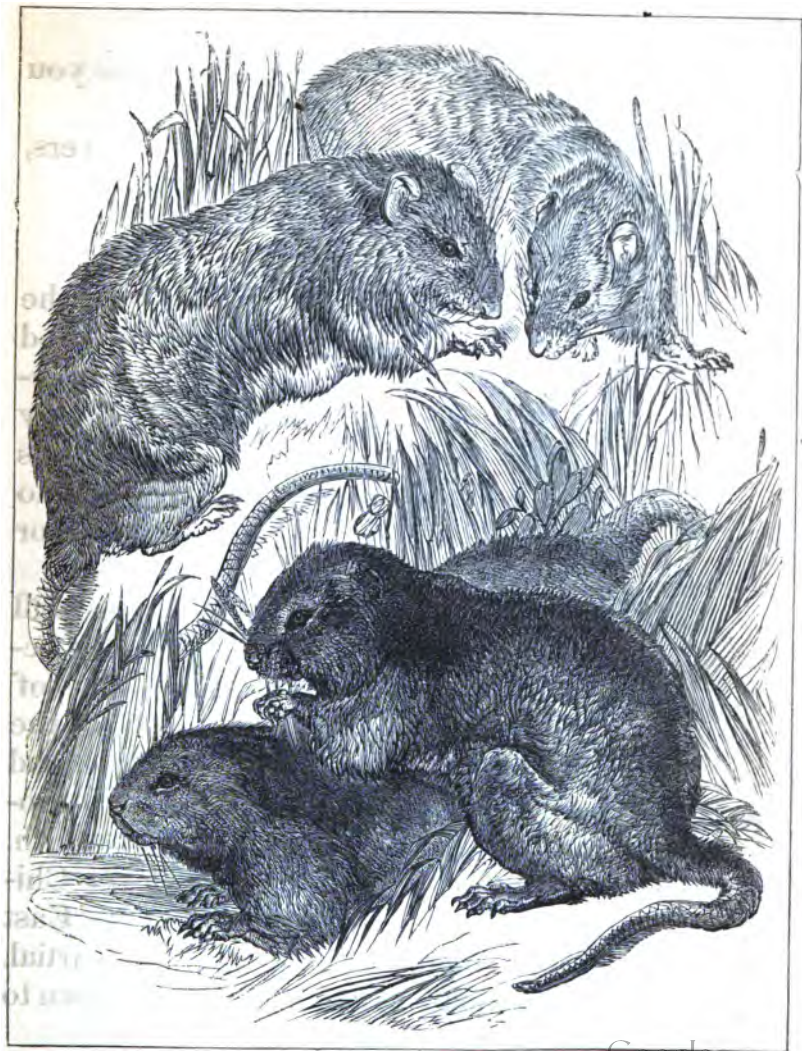
The Rodents include Rats and Mice, Beavers, Rabbits, and Porcupines.

RATS AND MICE.

There is no animal that is hated more than the RAT. It does not appear to have a single good quality to make you feel for it. It is a pest to every one: it steals, and destroys, and spoils every thing in its way. At one time the BLACK RAT was common in this country, but now it is very seldom to be seen. It has been expelled by the BROWN RAT, or NORWAY RAT, which is much bolder and fiercer.

The Brown Rat, when attacked by man, will often turn and dart upon him, and inflict very severe wounds. It burrows under the foundations of houses, and prefers being near the sewers and the drains of houses. It swims with great ease, and swarms about harbors and ships. It is very prolific: it brings forth as many as nineteen at a birth.

The Rat is eaten with much relish by the Chinese; and there is a very large kind in the East Indies to which the Hindoos are very partial. These are so large that they have been known to weigh upward of three pounds.



NORWAY AND WATER RATS.

The following are instances of the sagacity of the Rat :

During a dreadful storm, when the River Tyne had flooded the country all around, a number of people were assembled, watching the huge masses of hay swept along in its rapid course. At length a Swan hove in sight, struggling sometimes for land, and at others sailing in its stately manner along with the torrent : as it drew near, a black spot was observed in its snowy plumage, which the spectators were astonished to find was a living Rat, and it is probable that it had been borne from its dwelling in some hayrick, and, seeing the Swan, had hastened to it for a refuge. On the bird arriving on land, the Rat leaped off its back, and scampered away ; but a man killed it with a blow of his staff.

A gentleman was in the habit of placing the food for his Dogs in a long trough, as they were fed in the kennels. One day, after feeding them, he looked into a kennel through a hole in the door, and was somewhat astonished to see a number of Rats in the trough quietly and fearlessly partaking of bread and milk with the Dogs, who seemed to pay no attention to them. The Rats were at once doomed to destruction ; so the next day the trough was placed in such a position that a gun pointed through the hole would rake it from one end to the

other. At the usual hour the food was placed, the Dogs being kept out. The Rats, however, would not take the bait; the heads of several sagacious old ones were seen peering out from their holes, as if they "smelt a Rat:" they had their suspicions, and would not leave their retreats. Having waited for half an hour, the Dogs were let in, and in a few minutes Dogs and Rats were feeding peacefully together. The little creatures seemed to be aware that they were safe only when the Dogs were present.

The WATER RAT is never found either in houses or barns, but near rivers and ponds. Buffon says that, like the Otter, it lives chiefly on fish, though sometimes on frogs and water insects; this is, however, denied by others, who say that it lives wholly on those plants which grow near the water. A nest of this Rat was once turned up which was found to contain a stock of potatoes.

The MOUSE is well known to all. It is a very timid little animal, and runs away at the slightest noise. It is almost as great a pest as the Rat. The Cat is its greatest enemy, who quickly rids a house of these troublesome little creatures. There

is a variety of Mouse quite white, with red eyes. It is easily tamed, and is a great favorite with young people.

The HARVEST MOUSE is the smallest of the British quadrupeds; it is very much smaller than the common Mouse. Two of them were once placed in a scale, and weighed down just one halfpenny—that is, the third of an ounce avoirdupois. They never enter houses, but are carried to ricks and barns with the sheaves. They abound in harvest-time, and build their nests amid the straws of corn. They bring forth about eight at a birth, in a little brown nest made of blades of grass or wheat. One of these nests was found made of grass, perfectly round, and about the size of a cricket-ball, with the entrance so neatly closed that it could not be discovered. It was so compact and well filled that it would roll across the table without being disturbed, though it contained eight little naked and blind Mice.

The FIELD MOUSE is a very destructive little animal; it not only devours the corn, but strips the bark off the young trees. It has many enemies, Stoats, Weasels, Kites, Hawks, and Owls, which devour large numbers of them.



HAMSTER—HARVEST, COMMON, WHITE, FIELD, AND SHORT-TAILED MICE.

The **HAMSTER** is a native of Germany. It is much larger than the **Brown Rat**, with pretty white feet, and a white spot on the throat and breast. It is very destructive to the corn during the summer, and it lays up a large stock for its winter provision. Some idea of the damage it does may be imagined when we are told that its hole is seven feet deep, and that it is filled up to the brim. It is a fierce creature, and will fearlessly attack either man or beast that comes too near its hole.

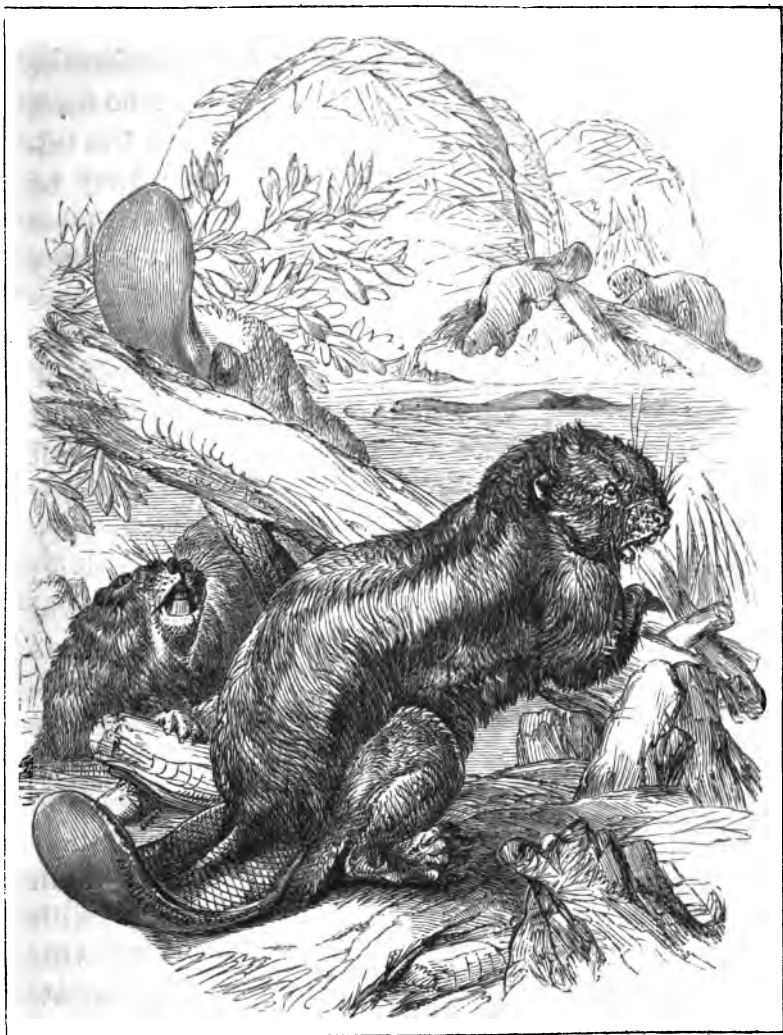
The **LEMMING** is a native of Norway. It migrates from one part of the country to another. At such times countless bands of them march in a straight line. Nothing turns them from their route. If they meet a man, they go between his legs; if a haystack, they gnaw their way through it; if a lake or river, they boldly swim over it. They eat every thing of a vegetable nature that comes in their way. The greater part fall victims to their numerous enemies. The **Lapland Dogs** worry large numbers of them, but will eat only their heads. **Foxes, Bears, Wolverines, and Ermines** devour them greedily. These migrations take place in the autumn; and the peasants say that they are a sure sign of a severe winter.

The **BEAVER** is chiefly found in North America. It is also common in the northern parts of Europe and Asia. When Bears and Wolves were inhabitants of our country, the Beaver was also to be seen constructing its singular house on our rivers and lakes; but it has not been seen in England since the year 1188.

The Beaver is about the size of a Badger, with a thick round head, and small eyes. Its teeth are very powerful, and capable of gnawing through trunks of trees of great thickness. These teeth are indeed so hard that the Indians make use of them as cutting implements, for one tooth placed in an axe-handle will plane the hardest wood. Its tail is half as large as its whole body; it is very useful to it when swimming in the water, as it stands in place of a rudder. Its fur consists of two kinds of hair, one long and coarse, the other soft, short, and silky. The fur is used in the making of hats.

In summer the Beaver lives in holes by the banks of rivers, which it only leaves to procure its food, which consists of berries and the bark of young trees. As autumn advances it seeks companions to prepare for its winter dwelling, in the building of which it shows great sagacity, almost amounting to reason. About two hundred Beavers having

met together, they choose a situation on a lake or a river, and there build their houses of mud, stones, and sticks. The entrance to these houses is always under the water. If the spot selected be rather shallow, and there is fear lest the hard frost should freeze up the entrance to their house, they make the water deeper by building a dam across the river. This dam is made of branches of trees which have been cut down by the sharp teeth of the Beavers, and stones, and clay. In order that the water may not be too high, an opening is left in the dam, so that the water may escape when it reaches a certain height. The huts, which vary from ten to thirty, are made of the same materials; they are about six feet above the water, of an oval or round shape, something like a bee-hive. It has been said that the Beavers use their tails as trowels for laying on the mud, but this is not correct, as these materials are carried between the chin and fore paws; and this mistake has arisen from the Beavers being in the habit of giving a slap with their tails when plunging into the water. Every autumn the Beavers cover the outside of their houses with fresh mud, so that it may be hardened by the winter's frost, and they may be protected from the attacks of their enemy the Wolverine. The Beavers



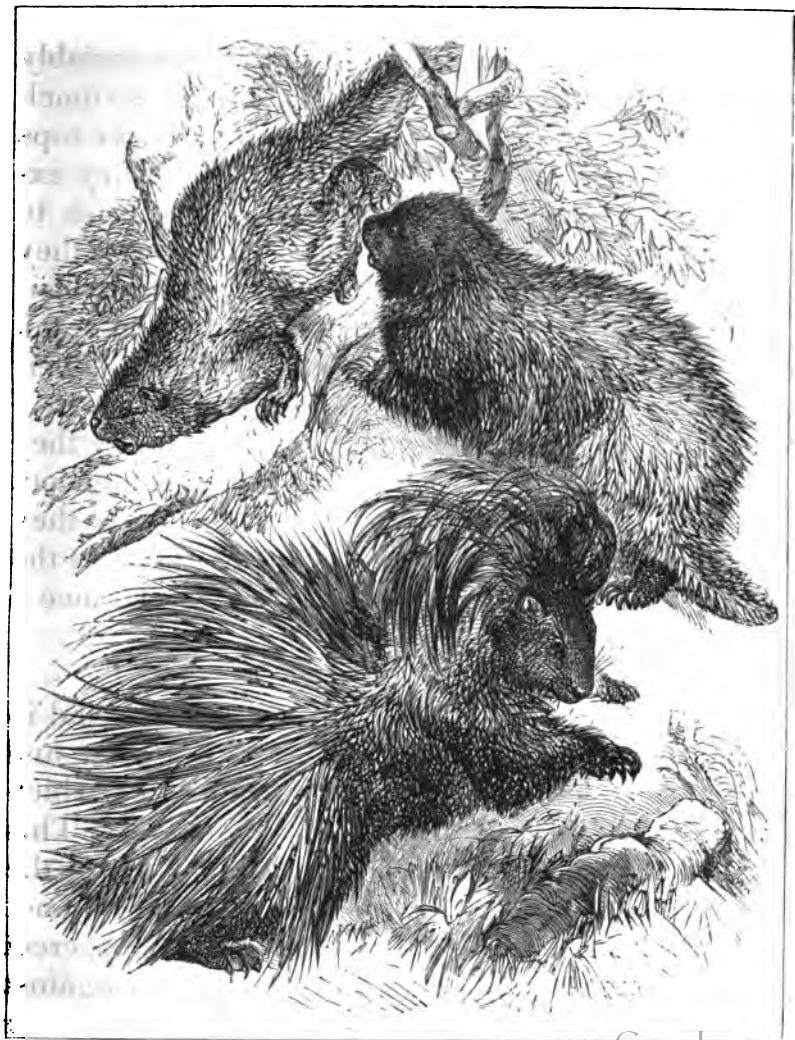
BEAVERS.

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are hunted in winter, when they are comfortably settled in the houses which they have taken so much pains in building. The hunters tear open the tops of these dwellings; but the Beavers, as if they expected being thus attacked, immediately rush to certain hiding-places in the bank. Thither are they followed by the hunters, who, soon finding their whereabouts by the hollowness of the sound, break open a hole and spear the poor animals. Their fur is the object sought after by the hunters.

Beavers are easily tamed, and in captivity they are in the habit of building dams and dwellings out of logs, brushes, brooms, and other objects they can lay hold of; they then seat themselves in the middle of it, as if pleased they had made so nice a house.

The COMMON or CRESTED PORCUPINE is found in the southern parts of Europe, Africa, Persia, and India. It is well known by the armor with which it is furnished as a means of self-defense. This consists of long hollow spines, or quills, about the size of a goose-quill. It is a harmless animal if not made angry. If it be attacked, it will stop, erect its quills, and rush backward, thrusting them against its foe with great force. Sometimes a quill looser



BRAZILIAN, CANADIAN, AND CRESTED PORCUPINES.

164 *The Canada and Brazilian Porcupine.*

than the others will remain in the wound, and, being toothed, if not at once taken out, will work itself into the animal's body, and kill it. Sometimes the cunning Serpent will try to wind itself round the Porcupine, but the latter immediately rolls itself into a ball, and inflicts such severe wounds on its foe that it is soon glad to make its escape. Its food consists of roots, bark, and fruit; it burrows in the earth, and sleeps during the day.

The CANADA PORCUPINE climbs trees with great ease; and it is said that in winter, when it ascends a tree, it does not come down till it has eaten the whole of the bark from top to bottom. It prefers young trees to old; and one Porcupine has been known to ruin nearly a hundred trees in the course of a winter. The quills are much used by the Indians for ornaments to their moccasins, or skin-shoes, birch-bark baskets, and other articles; for this purpose they are dyed various colors, and look very pretty. In this country the quills are used for handles to pens, or by anglers for floats.

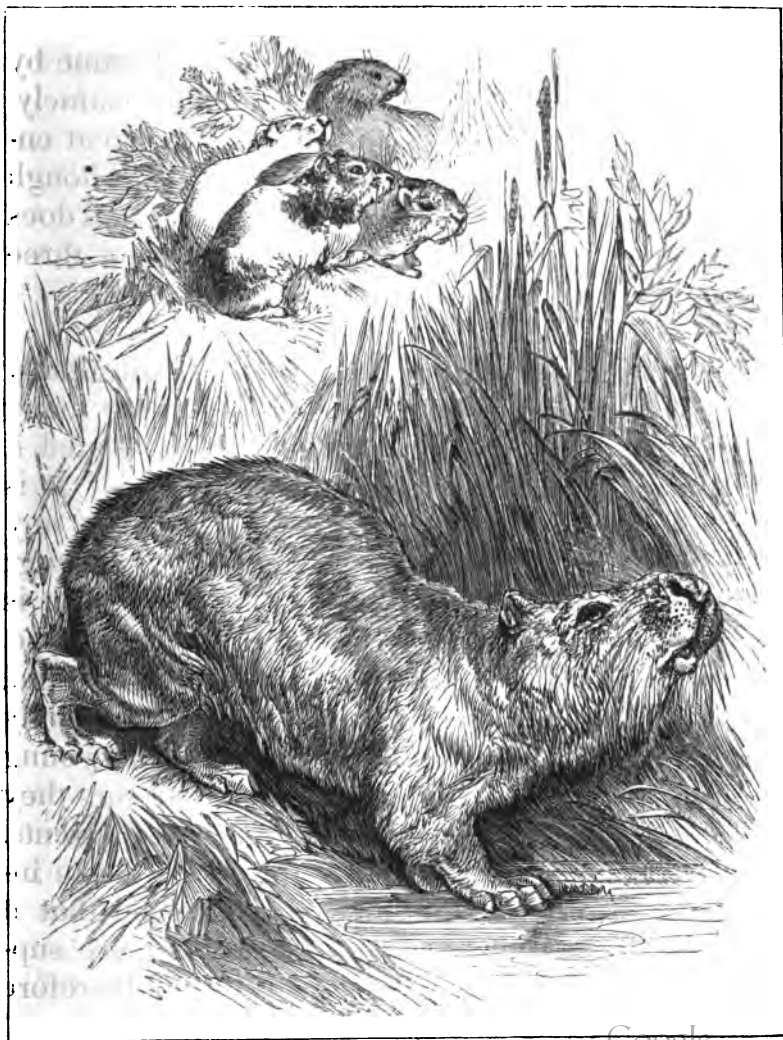
The BRAZILIAN PORCUPINE is also a tree-climber; it has a long prehensile tail, like the Opossum. It is about two feet in length, and its tail eighteen inches.

The AGOUTI is found in South America and the West Indies. It is about the size of a Rabbit. It is in great request on account of its flesh. When pursued, it will run for some distance with great speed, when it will try to hide itself in a hole, or under the roots of a tree; it is then easily taken, and continues to utter a sad, wailing cry. It feeds on vegetables, and is very fond of and destructive to sugar-canes. When angry, it stamps with its fore feet and grunts like a Pig.

The CAPYBARA is the largest of the Rodents. It is a native of South America. When viewed at a distance it looks very like a Pig. It has scarcely any tail to be seen, but if you push on one side the hair, you will discover a mass of naked and wrinkled flesh which does duty for one. It holds its food in its fore feet, feeding like an Ape. It lives in herds of fifty or sixty. During the day it lies concealed among the plants that grow on the banks of the rivers. At night it seeks its food, in search of which it will cross rivers and torrents, and make so much noise as to alarm those who do not know the cause. Its flesh has a musky and somewhat disagreeable smell, yet hams are made

of it in South America which justify the name by which the animal was at one time called, namely, "the Water Hog." The Alligator is its great enemy in the water, and the Jaguar on land. Though it has so many enemies, it is very fruitful, and does great damage to the pastures. It is about three feet six inches in length.

The GUINEA-PIG, or RESTLESS CAVY, originally came from South America, where there are many in a wild state to this day. When domesticated, it feeds on bread or grain, fruit or vegetables. It is very cleanly and harmless. It does not show any attachment either to its keeper or to its own young; yet it is a great favorite with schoolboys, as it is easily attended to, and does not make much noise. The female breeds nearly every two months; and, though only provided with two teats, she usually produces three or four, and sometimes twelve young ones at a birth. In the space of twelve hours they are able to run about as actively as their parents. Though it is called "Guinea"-pig, it is not an inhabitant of Africa, and it is very probable that it was at first called "Guiana"-pig. They are supposed to be able to keep off Rats, and therefore they are frequently kept near Rabbit-hutches.



GUINEA-PIGS—CAPYBARA.

The HARE is a well-known animal. It is to be seen in the shop of every seller of game. It is larger than a Rabbit, which it much resembles ; it may at once be distinguished from the wild gray Rabbit by the black spot at the end of its ears. It feeds chiefly at night. It does not live in holes of the ground like the Rabbit, but makes a nest of grass and other materials in a small hollow in the ground, which is called its "seat," or "form." Its gray and brown colors conceal it well from view. Here the Hare lies crouching close to the ground, with its long ears laid along its back till one of its numerous enemies comes quite close to it. The sparkle of its eyes often betrays to the sportsman its hiding-place. Besides its use for food, its fur is much used for ordinary purposes. Hare-hunting has at all times been a favorite sport. When hunted with Greyhounds it is called "coursing." Dogs called "Beagles" are also trained for this purpose ; they do not seek to catch the animal by speed, but they continue to follow till the poor tired Hare is not able to proceed any farther. The Hare is sometimes very cunning when followed by the Hounds. It turns back upon its track, makes enormous jumps, and starts off again at a right angle to its former course ; if it happen to be in a part of the country where there are walls, it will leap to the top of one, run



ALPINE AND COMMON HARE.

some yards along it, then taking a long jump, it will squat to see whether it has baffled the Hounds. If not successful, it will try other means to throw them off the scent. Often it will pass by a furze or thorn-bush at a distance of a couple of yards ; then going back, it will carefully follow its former course, and from it throw itself into the bush, where it will quietly remain while the Hounds dash past it.

There is a Hare called the **CHANGING HARE** : it is found in the colder parts of Europe and Asia. It is very common in the northern counties of Scotland. As winter approaches the fur of this animal gradually loses its gray color, and becomes of a snowy white, the tips of the ears remaining black. The hair is not removed, as in the Ermine, but, commencing with the feet, the white color gradually ascends till the change is effected all over the body.

The **ALPINE HARE**, which is found chiefly in Siberia, is remarkable for the provision it makes for winter. About the month of August these little animals begin to collect their winter's stock : it consists of the choicest grasses and the sweetest herbs. They arrange them in stacks with the greatest care, in some place sheltered from the rain or snow.

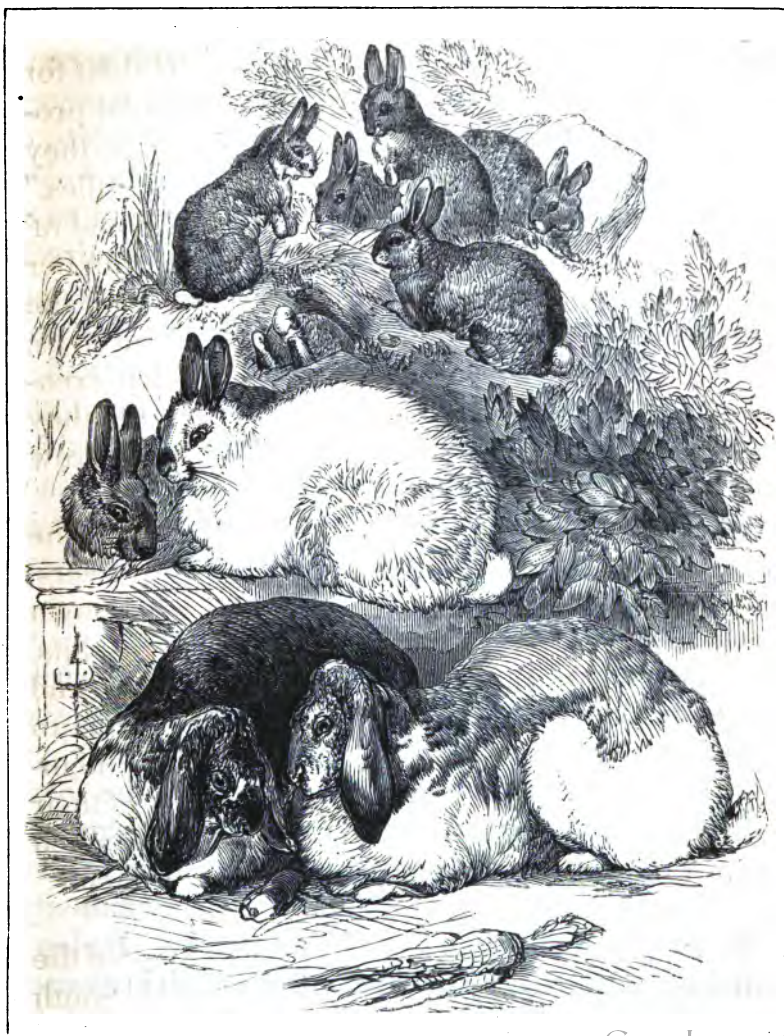
These stacks are often as high as a man, and eight feet in diameter. They are sought out by the Sable-hunters to feed their tired Horses.

The RABBIT is a favorite animal with boys, and is easily tamed, and, with a slight amount of care, can be easily attended to. Rabbits in a wild state live in holes of the ground ; and where they are allowed to increase for sport or for profit, they undermine large tracts of ground, which are called "warrens." Wild Rabbits are not so large as tame ones, but their flesh is considered to be more delicate and tender. It is said that the wild Rabbit will breed eleven times in the year, and bring forth generally eight at a birth ; at this rate, if the young ones were preserved, a couple of Rabbits would multiply in the course of four years to the immense number of a million and a quarter ! But the Rabbits are destroyed in great quantities by cold and damp, and by the numerous animals which prey on them. Poachers take these harmless creatures by spreading a net over the mouths of their holes, and then sending in a Ferret, who is trained to drive the Rabbits out of their burrows. The poor Rabbits, at the first sight of their dreaded foe, rush out into the open air only to be caught in the net. A dry,

sandy soil is always chosen by the wild Rabbit for its hole, and therefore care should be taken to protect tame Rabbits from the damp, otherwise they are sure to suffer from a disease called "snuffles." The female Rabbit makes a soft nest at the end of her burrow with dry grass, lined with fur from her own body. We have said that the young of the Guinea-pig are soon able to shift for themselves, but the young Rabbits are very helpless little creatures. It is not till about the twelfth day that they are able to see, and they do not leave their burrow till they are about four weeks old.

There are many breeds of tame Rabbits, the chief of which are known by the fall of the ears. Some fancy or lop-eared Rabbits have been known to fetch very large sums. If boys will keep Rabbits, they should be careful in regularly feeding them and keeping their hutches clean, for it is very cruel to neglect animals who can not provide for themselves, and who look to others for the supply of their wants; if they become tired of them, it is much better at once either to sell them or to kill them.

The CHINCHILLA is a native of the valleys of the mountainous districts of Chili and Peru, in South America. The cold in these parts is very severe,



WILD AND TAME RABBITS.

but this little creature, being provided with a coat of soft fur, is well adapted for living in the country Providence has placed it in. Like the Rabbits, it lives in societies, and makes its dwelling in holes dug in the ground. Its food is vegetable, and consists chiefly of bulbous roots. Like the Squirrel, it feeds sitting on its haunches, holding its food between its fore paws. When tamed it is very harmless and quiet, but does not show any particular attachment to its keeper. The length of this little animal is about nine inches, its tail nearly five. Its fur is much used for clothing; it is very fine, and so long that it can be spun. The Peruvian is larger and rougher in fur than the Chilian species.

The JERBOA is a native of Arabia and Siberia. It is about the size of a Rat. The tail is long, and tufted at the end; when leaping it is kept stretched out, but when walking or standing it takes the form of the letter S, the lower part touching the ground. It is very like the Kangaroo; its hind legs are so long, and its fore ones so short, that it commonly sits upright, and it eats from its fore paws. Its long hind legs, assisted by its strong tail, which is as useful to it as a fifth leg, enable it to take leaps of six-

or seven feet ; and so swift is it that even the Greyhound can not overtake it. It is very timid ; at the slightest alarm it rushes to its burrow, or, if it can not reach that, it bounds over the plain with such rapidity that it almost seems to fly. It burrows like a Rabbit, and makes a road of many yards long to its nest, which is lined with soft grass ; it remains in a torpid state in its nest snugly covered up throughout the winter. The fur of the Jerboa is of a bright golden color. The feet are covered with long bristly hair, which not only gives it a firm hold when it springs, but serves to protect the foot from the burning soil on which some of the species live.

The DORMOUSE is a native of the woods of the southern parts of England ; it is also found in the warmer countries of Europe. It is a pretty little animal, about the size of a mouse, with a sharp, lively eye, soft fur, round ears, and a hairy tufted tail. It makes its nest of moss, leaves, and grass, in a bush, or in the hollow of a tree. It feeds on nuts and acorns, which it eats from its fore paws, sitting on its hind legs. It lives among the brushwood, through which it makes its way with such swiftness that it is very difficult to capture it. It

is said that, when the Dormouse is thirsty, it dips its fore paws bent into the water, lifts them to its mouth, and drinks from them. As soon as the cold of autumn begins, it enters its nest, rolls itself into a ball, with its bushy tail curled round its head, and then sleeps till the warm weather returns. It awakes now and then on a sunny day, and eats a little from its stock, and then goes off to sleep again. The Dormouse is fond of society; ten or twelve nests have been found in the same bush.

Every child has seen the SQUIRREL, with its sharp teeth and its bushy tail, either skipping about in all its freedom among the trees in its native woods, or wearily turning round and round a wire cage in its sad captivity. The Squirrel is well adapted for its life among the trees. It is able to take surprising leaps from branch to branch, and from tree to tree, clinging by its claws to the smallest twig, and seldom missing its hold. If it does, and is about to fall to the ground, it spreads itself out in the manner of a Flying Squirrel, and in this way is enabled to reach the ground without injury. No sooner has it touched the ground than it instantly recovers itself, and is off like a streak of light up the nearest tree.

The long bushy tail is of great use to it in its fearless leaps, as it serves it as a rudder or balance, so that it is enabled, even when in the air, to alter the direction of its flight according to its wish. It is easily tamed; but it is very cruel to keep it in a wheel-cage, turning round and round the livelong day; the poor little creature then soon loses all its playfulness and activity. The Squirrel feeds on nuts and acorns, and sometimes on the bark of young trees. If you ever notice a Squirrel eating nuts, you will see that after it has gnawed through the hard shell, it carefully removes every particle of the dry brown skin from every morsel of the kernel before it is eaten. It eats sitting on its haunches, making its fore paws serve it in the place of hands. It builds its nest on the tops of trees where the branches meet and make a hollow. It is beautifully made of leaves, moss, and bark; and close by there is some hole in the tree, which the careful Squirrel uses as a store-room, filling it in the summer with nuts and acorns, so that during the cold season it lives in comfort and in plenty till the returning spring once more gives it the young buds and the fresh bark of the trees. The color of the Squirrel in our country is of a deep reddish brown.

The GRAY SQUIRREL of America causes great

damage to the farmer by destroying his crops. In Pennsylvania this kind were so great a pest that a law was passed that threepence should be given for every Squirrel destroyed, and in one year no less than 640,000 were killed.

The chief enemies of the Squirrel are Hawks, Owls, Foxes, Weasels, and Snakes.

The FLYING SQUIRREL is known from the common one by having a singular folding of the skin, which enables it to take leaps of very great extent. It can not strictly be said that it "flies," but it passes with the swiftness of a bird through the air: it is able to fly fourscore yards from one tree to another. It can not ascend in the air or keep in a straight line, but it descends gradually, so that, the longer the leap it wishes to take, the higher it must mount the tree. One of these animals happened to be on the mast-head of a sailing vessel, and as a sailor approached to bring it down, it made a spring to avoid him. At this moment the ship gave a sudden lurch, and it was evident to all who were watching it that if the Squirrel continued its flight in the same direction as at first, it would be plunged in the sea; but the little animal noticed the danger, and so checked itself that it alighted safely on the deck.



SQUIRRELS—FLYING SQUIRREL—JERBOAS—CHINCHILLAS.

The ALPINE MARMOT is found in the Alps and Pyrenees, and other mountainous countries of Europe. They live in families, and join together in digging their burrows in the ground. These burrows are in the shape of the letter Y, one fork leading to the common store-room, and the other to the little animal's private chamber, which is snugly lined with hay and moss. At the approach of winter they close up the door of their holes with earth, and sleep almost throughout the whole of the cold season. When they retire for the winter they are quite fat, but when they come forth again in spring they are very thin. They are fond of basking in the sun; and, lest any of their enemies should spring upon them, they always place a sentinel, who, as soon as it sees any sign of danger, utters a shrill cry, when the whole dive into their holes. The people of Savoy are very fond of their flesh, and dig them out of their burrows. They also tame, and teach them many amusing tricks. They are often to be seen in this country carried about by organ-boys, and they appear very happy with them; but, whenever they see a Dog, they become very angry, and scream with rage.

RUMINANTS.

RUMINANTS are those animals which “chew the cud;” that is, their food is first swallowed almost without being chewed; it is then moistened in the stomach, and after being compressed into small pellets or *cuds*, it is passed back to the mouth to be rechewed. The **Ruminants** of all animals are the most useful to man; some serve him as beasts of burden, while others furnish him with milk, tallow, hair, leather, and horn. They supply him also with a large proportion of his animal food. The **Ruminants** include **Oxen**, **Sheep** and **Goats**, **Deer**, **Giraffes**, and **Camels**.

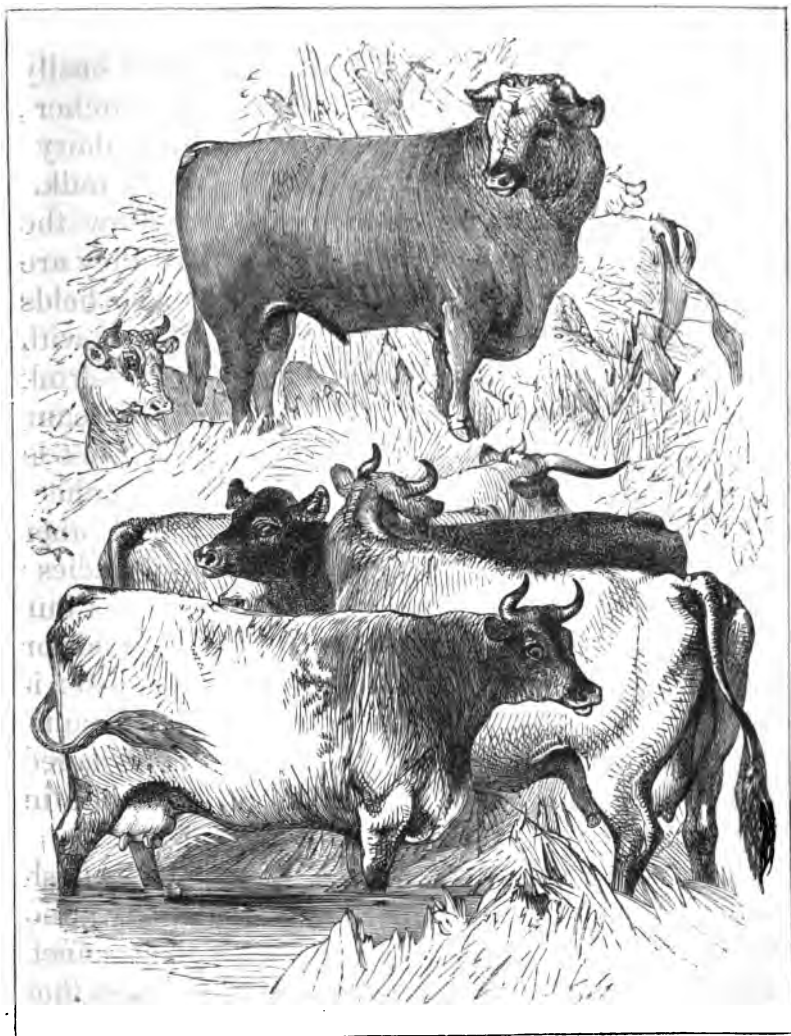
THE OX.

The **Ox** is known all over the world, and every where is it the same useful animal that we find it to be in this country. There are a great number of different breeds of **Oxen**, which are known from each other by their horns: we have the **Long-horned** and the **Short-horned**, the **Middle-horned** and the **Galloway**, which have no horns at all. They all

have some particular use. Some are more easily fattened than others, and are kept for the butcher ; others give better milk, and are kept for the dairy ; the small Alderney cow produces very rich milk.

In some parts of the country Oxen draw the plow, and are used as beasts of burden. They are more easily kept than Horses, and improve the fields where they graze, while the reverse is the case with Horses. Then what a wholesome and sweet drink is the milk of the Cow, besides producing cream, and butter, and cheese ! Every part of the Ox is of some use. Its skin furnishes us with leather ; its horns with combs, and knife-handles, and other articles ; its hoofs with glue ; its fat with candles ; its hair is useful for mixing with the mortar of our walls ; its bones are used instead of ivory, and for manuring our fields ; its very blood is not lost : it whitens our sugar, and forms the basis of a beautiful blue ; and we all know that the flesh is called beef, and that we take great delight and pride in the roast-beef of Old England.

The young of the Ox is called a Calf, and its flesh veal. Its feet furnish us with nourishing jelly ; and its stomach, when salted and dried, is called rennet. This rennet is used in making cheese, and also that drink of which children are so fond—curds and whey.



DOMESTIC CATTLE.

In former times our forefathers indulged in the cruel sport of bull-baiting. The poor animal was fastened by a long rope to a strong iron ring firmly fixed in the ground, and then very fierce Dogs, called Bull-dogs, were set upon it. Thousands of people assembled to be witnesses of these fights; sometimes the rope has not proved to be strong enough to hold the animal, and then the angry beast charged right into the midst of the terrified spectators. Now this sport is not permitted in this country, but it is very popular in Spain. There the animal is turned loose into a large open space, where several men, called picadors, armed with darts and other weapons, do all in their power to make the Bull angry, and, after having given sufficient evidence of their bravery, they put it to death. The highest in the land take great delight in witnessing these cruel combats.

At Chillingham Park there is a breed of wild cattle, which appear to be the descendants of the race that was once spread all over England. There are not very many of them there, but they are extremely fierce. When they want to shoot one of them, thirty or forty men go out armed with guns. One is singled from the herd by the keeper, and then the men drive it to a certain part of the Park where

there are concealed marksmen, by whom it is soon dispatched.

The ZEBU, or BRAHMIN BULL, is considered a sacred animal wherever the Brahmins teach their heathen faith. It is well known by the fatty hump between its shoulders, which in some weighs as much as fifty pounds. It is a gentle creature, about the size of our English cattle, and of many colors, but the white is the most highly valued. The poor Hindoos treat it with great reverence, believing it was the first animal God created; they have, as may be shown from the sculptures in India, worshiped it for many thousands of years. The Zebu may tread down a field of corn, devour all the fruit in a garden, walk into a shop and help itself to whatever it please, or lie down in a narrow street, and yet no one must drive it off, or disturb it in any way. And so we see that what was designed by God to be a blessing, is turned into a curse through the ignorance of the teachers of the people; for in those districts where the Brahmin priests have no power, the Zebu is very useful both for labor and for food.

The ASIATIC BUFFALO is a strong, powerful animal, with very large horns. In a wild state it de-

lights in water; and to roll about in a pool, or to plunge itself into a marsh, and there remain during the hottest hours of the day, with only its eyes and nostrils out of the water, seems to be the very height of enjoyment to it. It is often the case, as the traveler passes near some of the rivers of India, that he sees some small black specks start up suddenly into a great many huge animals. It is easily tamed, and then it is gentle and very useful: it is taught to draw wagons, and two of these animals will drag as much as four stout Horses. They are guided by a ring passed through the cartilage of the nose. The milk of the female animal, though not so nice and sweet as that of our Cow, is very plentiful, and is made into butter and cheese. It is a brave animal, and will singly attack a group of Elephants; and frequently, in a contest with a Tiger, will come off the conqueror.

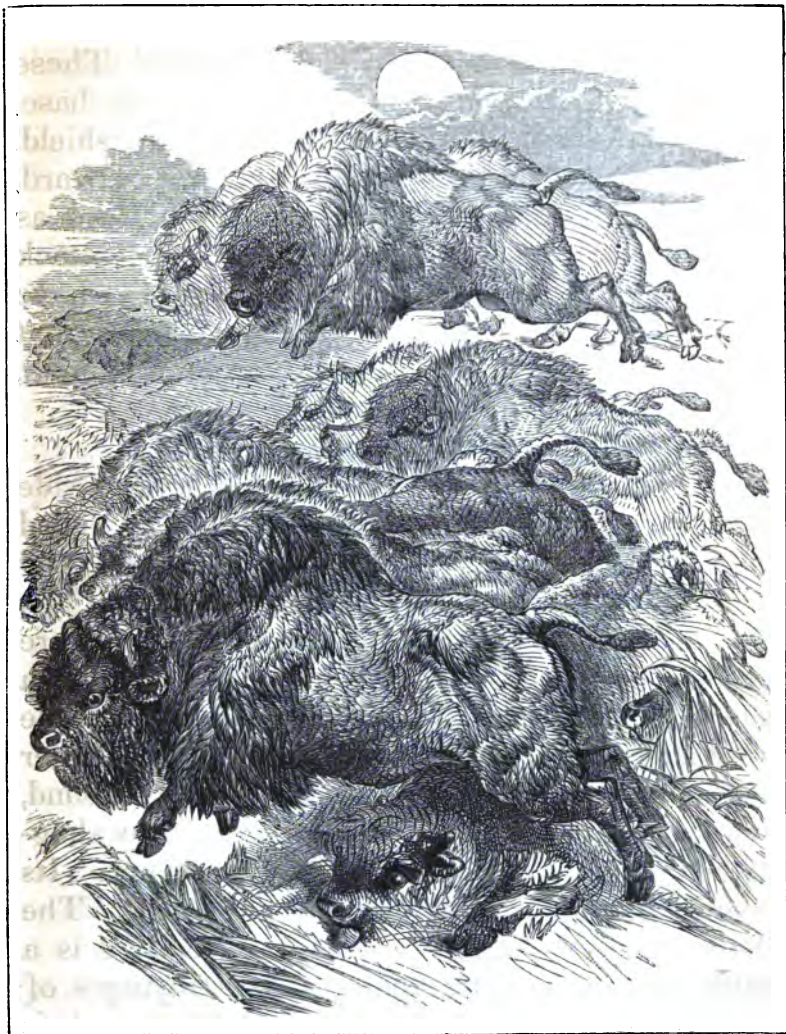
The CAPE BUFFALO, or the Buffalo of the south of Africa, is a most savage and cunning animal. It hides itself among the trees, and rushes upon any traveler who may happen to be passing. Nor is it contented with killing him, but will stand over the body mangling it with its horns, stamping on it with its feet, and licking the skin off with its rough



AFRICAN AND INDIAN BUFFALOES, Digitized by Google

tongue. It is well known by its large horns. These horns are upward of a foot in breadth at the base, and protect the skull as with a strong, massive shield. The horns, turning downward and then outward, give to the animal as fierce and dreadful a look as can well be imagined. When the hunters attack these animals, they always take care that they have some refuge to fly to. Its hide is so thick that common bullets fail to penetrate it; the hunters, therefore, make them of tin and lead mixed.

The **BISON** is found in great numbers in the wide prairies of North America, and is there often called the American Buffalo. It is larger than our Ox, and its height at the shoulder is about six feet. It is a very ugly creature; its shoulders and hump are covered with long woolly hair, something like a Lion's mane. This mass of hair covers the whole head, just as you see the head of the Skye Terrier buried in hair. Its head is bent down to the ground, and its small eyes, glancing from beneath its shaggy locks, give it a most ungainly appearance. Its color is of a deep brown approaching black. The Bison is not so fierce as it looks; usually it is a quiet and shy animal, though at certain times of the year it is fierce and dangerous. The flesh is juicy and well-flavored; but the hump, which in a



HERD OF BISONS.

full-grown animal weighs about a hundred pounds, is the part that is considered the greatest delicacy—so much so, indeed, that hundreds of these animals are slaughtered on account of their humps and tongues only, the rest of the body being left to the Wolves and the Vultures. The favorite method of hunting this animal is on horseback: the white hunter uses his rifle, but the Indian prefers his bow and arrow. You would hardly think, if you saw the small and slight bow used by the Indians, that it would be of any service against such huge animals; but the red hunter is able to kill more with it than the white man with his rifle. When hunting, the best and fattest of the herd are separated from the rest, and the hunter, having placed his horse on the animal's left side, inflicts the fatal wound just behind the shoulder. The Indian will discharge half a dozen arrows in the same time that would be occupied in loading and firing a rifle once; and with such force does he wield the weapon, that he has been known to send an arrow completely through the body of a Bison. The Bisons live in large herds often numbering above fifteen thousand. At the least sound they will rush away with a great noise, trampling and destroying every thing in their way.

The hunters have many ways of destroying the

Bisons. Sometimes they form a line, and drive them to the brink of a lofty precipice, over which they fall in hundreds, those behind urging the others forward; at other times they collect a vast multitude of them into a narrow circle, where they are so huddled together that the hunter leaves his horse, and, springing with all the skill of a rope-dancer on to the backs of the Bisons, kills them as he steps from one to the other with his sharp spear, which he plunges into the spine of their back.

The flesh of this animal is made into dried meat and pemmican; it is often "jerked"—that is, the flesh is cut off the animal in long, thin, narrow strips, and stuck upon branches of trees, or pegged on lines, for about three days, when it is considered to be "jerked" or dried. The skin, when properly dressed, makes excellent blankets, and the wool has been manufactured in England into a fine cloth. It is very useful to the Indians; their wigwams or tents, their shields, robes, shoes, etc., are all made out of it.

Notwithstanding the vast numbers of these animals that are slain every year, they do not appear to decrease in number; the chief effect caused by the dreaded fire-arms is that they are more wary than formerly, and have withdrawn into more distant lands

The **YAK** is found in the valleys among the mountains of Thibet and Tartary; from the strange sound it makes, it has received the name of the "Grunting Ox." It is a wild-looking animal; it has a hump on its back like a Buffalo. It is covered all over with hair, the general color of which is black, but that on the mane and tail is quite white. The tail is long like that of a Horse, and the hair very soft and silky. When cut off, the tails are mounted in silver or ivory handles, and are highly valued by the rich: they call them "chowries," and use them as fly-flappers to brush away those troublesome insects. The Yak has a thin, crooked hoof, which is well suited for climbing the mountains among which it dwells. It is often tamed, and is used by the Tartars in bearing burdens; it is docile and sure-footed.

The **GNOO**, or **WILDEBEE**, as it is called by the Hottentots, is an inhabitant of South Africa. It is a most singular creature. It is neither Buffalo, nor Horse, nor Antelope; and yet it is all three: it has the head and horns of a Buffalo, the mane and tail of a Horse, and the legs and hoofs of an Antelope. It is very swift, and most dangerous when provoked. Its mode of attack is very peculiar: it drops down on its knees, and then springs forward

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MUSK-ox—GNOO.

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with such force that it is most difficult to avoid the blow. When alarmed, it commences to plunge, and toss, and kick in a very strange manner. When the hunter approaches, the old bulls begin whisking about their long white tails; then, springing suddenly into the air, they prance and caper about, chasing each other in circles at their utmost speed. Suddenly they all pull up, when two of the bulls, instead of charging their common enemy, commence fighting each other, dropping on their knees at every shock; then wheeling round, they kick up their heels, whirl their tails with a flourish, and scour across the plain covered in a cloud of dust. When the hunters carry a red flag they are exceedingly enraged; they lash their tails, turn up the ground, and charge the bearer of the flag; but a single shot will turn them and cause them to flee, except in the case of a wounded animal, who often proves dangerous. The Gnool, when taken young, can be tamed; but it will not bear confinement. Its flesh is eaten by the natives, and is much liked.

The MUSK-Ox appears to hold a middle place between the Ox and the Sheep. It has the horns and size of the one, and the woolly covering of the other. It is found in the coldest parts of North America. It is remarkable for the length of its

hair, which reaches almost to the ground. It derives its name from the musky odor which proceeds from it. Its size is that of a small Highland Bullock; its legs are short, the head is large, and the horns are very broad, forming a kind of shield for the forehead. Its flesh is very good when the animal is fat. The hunters conceal themselves when they wish to shoot it, and fire at it from their place of concealment. When the Oxen hear the noise, they fancy it is thunder, and huddle together in a body, so that the hunters have no difficulty in shooting as many as they wish. Should they, however, catch a sight of their assailants, they charge at them, and are then very dangerous.

The NYLGHAU, or BLUE Cow, seems to unite the Antelope with the Cow. It is found in the countries between India and Persia. It has a hump between its shoulders, a thin black and white mane, and a kind of under-mane of the same color on its breast. When about to attack it drops on its knees like the Gnool, and shuffles to within a short distance of its object, when it darts forward with a powerful spring, and butts in a most determined manner. A horse and its rider have been overthrown by its sudden onset. The Tiger is its

great enemy, and, spite of its bravery, the Nylghau frequently falls a victim to it. Its color is a slaty gray, with a few patches of white. When captured it is very vicious, and will attack its keeper; and it has been known to knock down the wooden paling of the fence where it was kept to get at him.

The Koodoo is a native of South Africa. It lives much in the woods, seldom venturing out of the dense thickets except in the morning and evening. It is chiefly remarkable for its beautifully shaped horns, which are about four feet in length, forming, with the wreath that entwines them, two complete spiral turns. When closely pursued it takes to the water, and tries to escape by its power of swimming. It might be thought that its long horns would be very much in its way when rushing through the woods, but at such times it stretches forward its muzzle, so that the horns are thrown back along its shoulders. It is a large animal, about four feet in height, yet it can leap with great activity.

The ELAND is the largest of the Antelopes, bearing a great likeness to the Ox tribe. There is a fine specimen in the British Museum, which is larger than a good-sized dray-horse. Unlike most of the



NYLGHAU—KODDOO.

Antelope, it gets very fat, and its flesh is highly valued. Like others of its family, the Eland can do with very little water; and from this, and its gentleness and its not requiring much food, it has been thought that it might become as useful to the Africans as the Camel to the sons of the Desert. It is so fat, and slow, and heavy in its movements, that it has been known to drop down dead after a severe chase. It breeds easily in captivity, and some Elands which were brought over to this country have been found to stand the climate very well. There are several of them in good condition to be seen at the present time in the Zoological Gardens.

The height of the Eland is five feet at the shoulder, and its weight from seven to nine hundred weight.

The ORYX, or GEMSBOK, is to be found in South Africa. It is the most beautiful of the Antelope tribe. It is supposed to have given rise to the fable of the Unicorn, the figure of which animal on the arms of our country is so well known to all; its long straight horns, when looked at sideways, cover each other, and have the appearance of being one horn. It is the only Antelope that revenges itself on the Lion. When the Lion is about



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THE ELAND.

to make its fatal spring the Oryx lowers its head, and the Lion is transfixed on its sharp horns: in such cases the Oryx is sure to die. The skeletons of both of them are frequently to be seen together in the plains of Africa. Its height is about that of the Ass, which animal it slightly resembles in color. The full-grown male measures three feet ten inches in height at the shoulder. When hunted by Dogs, its sharp horns are of great service to it, as they enable it either to kill them, or to drive them off and to escape into the thick woods.

The SPRINGBOK is another beautiful Antelope inhabiting Southern Africa; it is much smaller than any of those we have described. It is very timid; and if it has to cross over a path where a man has passed before, it does not walk over the spot, but takes an immense leap, ten or twelve feet high, and about fifteen long, curving its back in a most singular manner. You will from this see how well the name "Spring"-bok applies to it. Its back is of a cinnamon color, and its lower parts of pure white; its fine dark eye, its curved horns, and its innocent expression of face, unite to make it one of the most beautiful objects in the animal creation. It is remarkable for its migrating in vast herds from

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one part of the country to another. Mr. Cumming, in his travels, saw one of these migrations, and gives the following account of it: "For about two hours before the day dawned I had been lying awake in my wagon, listening to the grunting of the bucks within two hundred yards of me, imagining that some large herd of Springboks was feeding beside my camp; but on my rising when it was clear, and looking about me, I beheld the ground to the northward of my camp actually covered with a dense living mass of Springboks, marching slowly and steadily along, extending from an opening in a long range of hills on the west, through which they continued pouring, like the flood of some great river, to a ridge about a mile to the northeast, over which they disappeared. The breadth of the ground they covered might have been somewhere about half a mile. I stood upon the fore-chest of my wagon for nearly two hours, lost in wonder at the novel and wonderful scene before me, and had some difficulty in convincing myself that it was reality which I beheld, and not the wild and exaggerated picture of a hunter's dream. During this time their vast legions continued streaming through the neck in the hills in one unbroken compact phalanx.

"Vast and surprising as was the herd of Spring-

boks which I had that morning witnessed, it was infinitely surpassed by what I beheld on the march to old Sweir's camp; for on our clearing the low range of hills through which the Springboks had been pouring, I beheld the boundless plains, and even the hill-sides which stretched away on every side of me, thickly covered, not with herds, but with one vast herd of Springboks; as far as the eye could strain, the landscape was alive with them, until they softened down into a dim red mass of living creatures."

The colonists and natives dry its flesh, and store it against a season of scarcity.

The GAZELLE is found in Arabia, Syria, and the north of Africa. It is a most beautiful animal; and the Arab can not pay a greater compliment to his intended bride than comparing her to a Gazelle. All the poets of the East have written of the grace of its figure, the lightness of its bound, the soft lustre of its full hazel eye, and its marvelous swiftness. The Gazelle, when taken young, can be easily tamed, and it is frequently to be seen in the court-yards of Eastern dwellings. The inhabitants of those places where the Gazelle abounds have various ways of taking it. They select a spot about a mile



SPRINGBOK—ORYX—GAZELLE.

and a half square, which they inclose on three sides with a wall of loose stones too high for the Gazelles to leap over. Gaps are left in different parts, and near each gap there is a deep ditch on the outside. They drive a herd of these creatures into the inclosure. The Gazelles, frightened by the shouts and fire-arms of the people, try to escape by the gaps in the wall; but, in attempting to do this, they fall into the ditches on the outside, where they are easily taken. The Falcon and the Greyhound are trained to assist in the capture of the Gazelle. The Falcon marks one of the herd, and separates it from the rest. It then darts at the head of the affrighted animal, and either throws it down or checks it in its rapid course. The Greyhound soon comes up and seizes the creature by the throat. So swift is the Gazelle, that without the aid of the Falcon the Greyhound would not be able to overtake it. Besides its use as food, the natives of Syria make a kind of parchment from its skin. The height of the Gazelle is about one foot nine inches; its color a dark yellowish-brown, fading into white on the under parts.

The KLIPSPRINGER is, like most of the other Antelopes, a native of South Africa. It is a very small creature, standing about twenty inches in height.

It is never to be seen on the plains, but only on the mountains; the crags and the cliffs are its home, and there, in this secure retreat, it is safe from the attack of any quadruped. But it is not without its enemies. The Eagle and the Lämmergeyer are ever on the watch to pounce upon it, and many of them fall victims to these birds of prey. Like all the other works of God, the Klipspringer is admirably adapted for its life on the rocks. Its hoofs are hollow, and jagged at the edges, so that it is able to bound fearlessly along from rock to rock.

The only Antelope to be found in Europe is the CHAMOIS. In the Alps and other mountain ranges it may be seen living in small flocks, and bounding from rock to rock with most surprising agility. Hunting the Chamois is a very dangerous sport, the hunter being exposed to the most frightful dangers—to the chance of death from hunger, or excessive cold, or slipping from lofty precipices. The Chamois-hunter will start before daybreak to watch the paths by which the Chamois are in the habit of descending to feed. If alarmed they take to the highest crags, and then the hunter, fearless of danger, must follow them. The day often passes away in fruitless attempts to get near them; and when

night arrives, he is compelled to take what rest he can on the bare rock or on the slippery ice. After a few hours' rest, he makes his breakfast of some bread and cheese, and some brandy, and starts off again. Days pass thus; and such is the exciting nature of the sport, that the hunter seems to be urged on by a kind of fascination. Father, son, and grandson have been known to lose their lives one after the other in the chase; yet such accidents do not act as a caution to the young huntsman of the Alps, who will not forego the daring pursuit. The value of the Chamois, including the skin, is only about twelve shillings, so that it can not be the love of money that urges him on.

The IBEX is to be found in the same mountainous regions as the Chamois. They differ in their horns: those of the Chamois are not very long; they are of a beautiful black, and curve backward like a hook; those of the Ibex are longer and thicker, and arch backward with a bold sweep from the forehead almost to the haunches. They are very strong, and serve well to break its fall when it launches itself forth from some rocky height. It is a very wary animal, and when feeding, one of the flock is always posted on some emi-

nence to give notice of any sign of danger: this notice is a kind of whistle, which, when heard, sends the whole of them scampering to the topmost crags. After it has led the hunter over the most perilous paths, it will often turn on him, and, if he is not able to shoot it at once, will drive him from the precipice on the rocks below.

The GOAT is to be found in most parts of the world: it is very useful to man. It generally inhabits lofty and rocky regions, where it will leap from rock to rock, and alight on so narrow a ledge that you would think it impossible for it even to find room to stand; yet it will go to sleep on such a spot as if in perfect security. Sometimes it will dash at the face of a rock which looks perfectly smooth, and spring from point to point, taking advantage of the slightest projection, and will reach the summit in safety. Goats are not to be seen in large numbers in this country. Sometimes you may see them in stable-yards, as it is said that the smell arising from them is good for horses; sometimes a few are kept for their milk, which is pleasant and nourishing to persons who are delicate or consumptive; but most frequently are they to be seen decked with gay ribbons, drawing children's carriages. In Switzerland, Syria, and other countries, however, large

flocks of Goats are kept for the sake of their milk. They are as useful to their owners as the Cow ; in fact, in those countries they take the place of that animal. The most valuable variety of the Goat is the Cashmere, which is famous for its fine, long hair of a silky appearance, from which most beautiful shawls are made. The young of the Goat are called " Kids ;" they are pretty little creatures, and as playful as kittens : their flesh is very delicate and sweet. The flesh of the Goat is called venison.

The following anecdote will show the sagacity of two Goats in getting themselves out of a very awkward difficulty : Two Goats, grazing about the ramparts of Plymouth citadel, got down upon the narrow ledge of the rock, and one of them, advancing before the other till it came to an angle, was enabled to return, but in its way back met its companion, which was a most perplexing position, as it was impossible for them to get past each other. Many persons from below saw them without being able to lend any assistance. After a considerable time, one of the Goats was observed to kneel down with great caution, and crouch as close as could be, which was no sooner done than the other, who at once saw the intention of his companion, with great dexterity walked over him, and they both returned the way they came in perfect safety.



The SHEEP.—Next to the Cow, the Sheep may be said to be the most useful animal to man. Its flesh—called mutton—is one of our most common articles of food; and its wool supplies us with nice warm clothing. It is a very timid and harmless animal. In Eastern countries it is not driven by Dogs and men, but it there knows the voice of its shepherd, and follows him wherever he may lead it. There are a great many different breeds of Sheep. The great point among farmers is to combine fineness of wool with excellence of flesh. The Merino Sheep excels in the fineness of its fleece, and the black-faced Highland Sheep in the delicious flavor of its flesh. The Leicester breed is very largely reared on the rich and low-lying pastures of England. It is small in bone, and fattens at an early age.

The MERINO SHEEP are found chiefly in Spain. During the summer they feed on the mountains of that country, but in winter they are taken to pasture in mild districts. In order to change from one part of the country to the other, these Sheep have to travel above four hundred miles, and these journeys occupy about six or seven weeks. They do great damage in those parts through which they pass; and many are lost through fatigue, or fall victims to the savage Wolf. Their wool is very fine, and their flesh pleasant.



SHEEP AND LAMBS.

In the south of Africa the **BROAD-TAILED SHEEP** are reared. It takes its name from the solid mass of fat which falls over in the place of a tail, which is so large that, to prevent its rubbing on the ground, a little carriage is sometimes attached to it. This tail is considered to be a great delicacy. The tail of the **Long-tailed Sheep** of Syria and Egypt is taken care of in a similar way: it sometimes weighs upward of seventy pounds.

The **WALLACHIAN**, or **CRETAN SHEEP**, have long twisted horns; their wool is perfectly straight, closely set, and very fine and silky; that on the middle of the back falls on either side of the animal almost to the ground.

Every part of the sheep is useful to man; and, wherever he has gone, it has been introduced and has prospered. As an instance of this may be mentioned its progress in Australia. It is about sixty years since the first Sheep were landed in that island, and now the colonists export to this country upward of ten millions of pounds of wool.

Though the sheep are generally timid and harmless, yet the **Ram** is brave and strong. When the mountain Sheep are alarmed they form themselves in a square, placing the Rams in front and the Ewes and Lambs behind. It is then dangerous to



come near them; for the attack of a Ram is more to be feared than that of a Goat, for the Ram not only springs upon its foe, as does the Goat, but rushes at him first, thus giving more force to the blow.

The GIRAFFE is found only in Africa. It is the tallest of animals, its height varying from thirteen to eighteen feet. In old books it is called the Cam-elopard, because it was thought that its father was a Leopard and its mother a Camel. But now so many of these creatures have been brought to the Zoological Gardens of this country that every child is as familiar with the form of the Giraffe as with that of the Horse or the Cow. Though this animal is so tall, it can so hide itself amid the trees of the old forests in which it dwells that none but a practiced eye can discover it. Its head is not unlike that of a Horse, but it has two small projections resembling horns, which are covered with skin, and have a black tuft of hair at the end. Its large eyes stand out so far from its head that it can see objects behind it without turning its head. This power has been given to it, no doubt, that it may escape from the Lion and its other enemies.

When attacked by any animal, it defends itself by violently kicking with its hind legs, and it does this with such rapidity that the eye can not follow their quick motions. The Lion is often thus obliged to beat a retreat. The traveler Le Vaillant says that when he was hunting a Giraffe, it kept his pack of Dogs at a distance by its rapid kicks. It can not run very fast; for any person of light weight on an ordinary Horse can with ease overtake a herd of them, and choose which one he will shoot. Its skin is an inch and a half in thickness, so that it is necessary that the hunter should get very close to the animal before he shoots at it.

The Giraffe, in its wild state, feeds upon the leaves and twigs of trees, in reaching which its long neck and great height must be very useful to it. It has also a long and flexible tongue, which can be tapered to so small a point as to be able to enter the ring of a small key. The Giraffe is very fond of using its tongue, and sometimes pulls out hairs from its companions' manes and tails, and swallows them. In the Zoological Gardens, this nimble, filching tongue very often robs the ladies' bonnets of the artificial flowers which may adorn them. One day, as a Peacock was spreading out his tail in the sunbeams in the paddock where the Giraffes are kept,



GIRAFFES.

one of them stooped his long neck, and twisting his tongue round a bunch of the gaudy plumes, suddenly lifted the astonished bird in the air, then giving him a shake, disengaged five or six of its gay tail-feathers, when down fluttered the Peacock, and scuffled off with the remains of his tail dragging humbly behind him.

The Giraffe does not often try to take any thing from the ground, but when it does it is obliged to straddle widely with its fore legs before it can succeed in reaching the wished-for object.

The first Giraffe that appeared in England was in 1827; it was sent by the Viceroy of Egypt as a present to his majesty George IV. It, however, only lived for a very few months after its arrival here. About seven years after, the Council of the Zoological Gardens entered into an arrangement with a famous hunter, named M. Thibaut, to procure for them four Giraffes from the interior of Africa. M. Thibaut started from Cairo, in Egypt, on this expedition on the 15th of April, 1834. Having obtained the assistance of some trusty Arabs, he traveled on for about four months before he arrived at the haunts of the Giraffe. One day he saw two Giraffes—a female with her fawn—and immediately gave chase to them. At the end of three hours he

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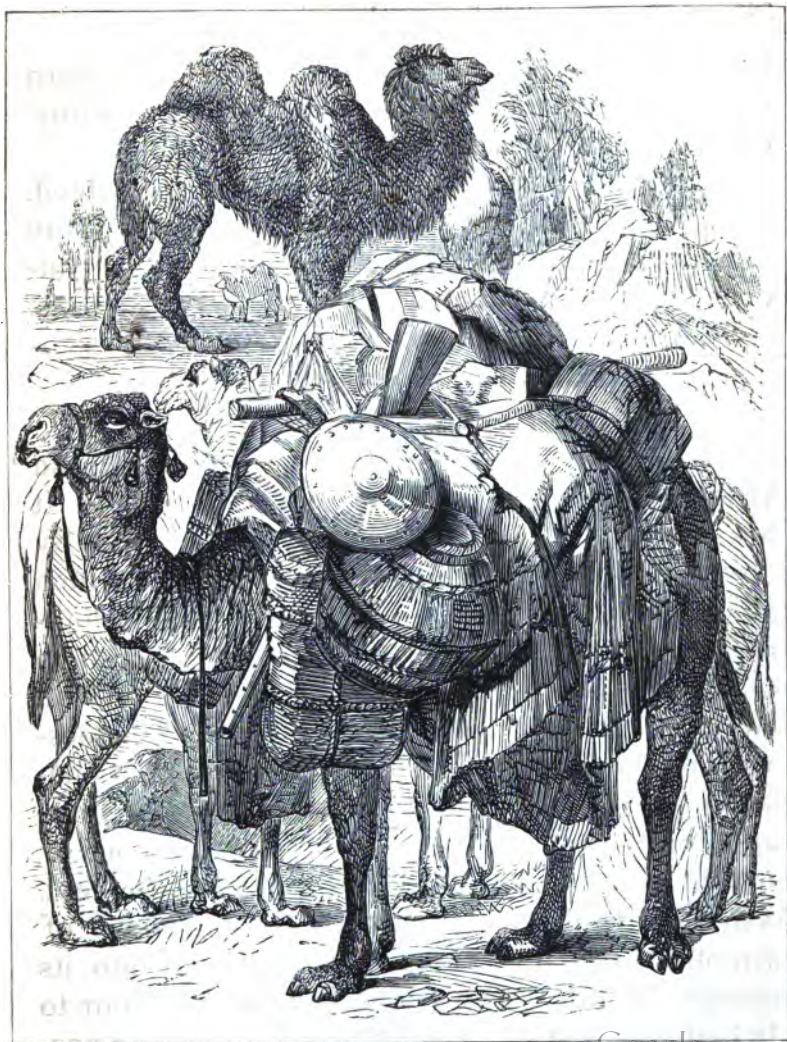
was in possession of the larger one, but, being unable to take it alive, the Arabs killed her with repeated blows of their sabres, and cut her into pieces, and took the flesh to head-quarters: it was found to be excellent eating. On the following day, as soon as it was light, they started in pursuit of the young Giraffe, and in a short time were on its traces. These tracks were followed in the deepest silence, and in a very few hours they were in possession of it. The next task was to tame it: this was managed by the Arabs, who constantly held it at the end of a long cord. By degrees it became accustomed to the presence of men, and took a little nourishment. It was fed for some time on the milk of Camels, which they had brought with them for that purpose. M. Thibaut afterward caught seven more Giraffes, but the cold weather killed four of them. The remaining four he with great trouble and patience succeeded in bringing over to England.

These Giraffes have thriven in this climate in the most remarkable manner, and the female gave birth to no less than seven fawns before her death in October, 1852. The fine male now in the Zoological Gardens was the fourth of these; he was born on the 22d of April, 1846. The adult female was born in 1853. She bore her first fawn in the

month of July, 1859. The young female was born on the 7th of May, 1855: they are all very healthy, and exceedingly tame.

The flesh of the young Giraffe is highly valued, nor is that of the grown-up ones rejected by the savage tribes who succeed in getting it. Its beautiful spotted skin is used for ornaments to dresses, and for bucklers and sandals, and is also sewn together, and forms vessels for keeping water.

The CAMEL is found in the deserts of Asia and Africa. It is very useful to the poor Arab. It forms his sole wealth and his greatest blessing. By it he is able to travel across those deserts in which he lives; its milk is his food, and its hair his clothing; it is the most temperate of animals; it can go for days, or even weeks, without any other food than the thistles and the stunted shrubs found in the desert; and the singular structure of its stomach enables it to travel very long distances without requiring water. In its stomach are a large number of cells, in which a large supply of water may be kept. When the Camel feels thirsty, it has the power of bringing some of the water in the cells into its mouth. These cells are said to hold from four to six quarts of water. It is able also to close its nos-



CAMELS.

trils so that the fine sand of the desert can not possibly enter them. The foot of the Camel is well adapted for walking on loose sand; it is soft and flat, and spreads out as it touches the ground. Those parts on which the animal kneels when being loaded—the chest, shoulders, and knees—are covered with thick, hard pads.

The Arabian Camel has only one hump; the Bactrian Camel two. The former of these is very often called a Dromedary, but this is not correct, as the Dromedary is only a lighter kind of that animal, which can run with greater swiftness than the Camel.

The Camel has not a good character; it is said to be very jealous and revengeful. On one occasion a Camel-driver had insulted the animal in his charge. The driver, from the expression of its eye, saw that there was mischief in it, and kept a sharp watch for some days. One night, before he retired to rest, he left his cloak spread over the wooden saddle of the Camel outside the tent. During the night the Camel approached the cloak, and, believing that its master was fast asleep under it, lay down and rolled itself backward and forward over the cloak; the saddle broke under this weight, and the animal was evidently much pleased at what it thought was the cracking and breaking of its mas-

ter's bones. After a time it rose, and, looking with contentment on the havoc it had caused, retired from the spot. Next morning the driver, who had heard all that the Camel had done, presented himself to the animal. The disappointed Camel was in such a rage on seeing its master safe and well, that it broke its heart and died on the spot!

Camels will carry about six hundred pounds weight, and will not travel more than thirty miles a day; when they fancy that they are overloaded, no beating or coaxing will induce them to rise. Camels are early trained to carry burdens, the load being increased according to their strength and growth. Riding on the hump is any thing but pleasant, but the rider soon gets accustomed to it.

The LLAMA and ALPACA of South America are used for the same purposes as the Camel by the sons of the Desert. Like that animal, the Llama has a number of cells in its stomach, so that it can go long journeys without requiring water. When four years old the males are trained to carry burdens; its services are much required for bringing the silver ore from the mines in the mountains of Peru; and there it is very valuable, as no Horse, Ass, or

Mule could descend the steep places that the Llama does. It is not so large or so strong as the Camel, and therefore can not carry such heavy burdens; and if it has too large a load, like that animal it refuses to rise; about one hundred weight is its usual amount. It is a beautiful sight to see a flock of laden Llamas crossing the table-lands. The Indian drivers are very much attached to them, and dress them gayly with ribbons. The flesh of the Llama is not good; its wool is used for making coarse cloth.

The ALPACA is not so large as the Llama. Its fleece is long and soft; it is sometimes twelve inches in length, and very fine; the Indians are in the habit of making blankets of it. It has also been brought to this country, and is used to make cloth stuffs, which are both soft and durable.

The GUANACO and the VICUNA are both varieties of the same species, and inhabit the mountainous regions of South America. The Guanacos have a singular custom when they are wounded, or have the feeling that they are about to die: they are in the habit of going to a certain spot, and there they lie down and breathe their last. It is a very curious animal; for if a hunter lie on the ground, and



LLAMAS.

play strange antics, such as throwing his feet up in the air, it will approach nearer and nearer to satisfy its curiosity ; and if he even fire some shots, the animal is not disturbed, but considers it all a part of the performance.

The MUSK DEER is found in Siberia, Tartary, China, and India. It is famous for producing the well-known perfume called "musk." This is contained in a small bag which protrudes from the belly, and is cut off when the animal is killed. When quite fresh, the scent is so powerful that before the hunter can remove it he is obliged to cover over his mouth and nostrils, otherwise it would cause violent bleeding at the nose. It is an article much used in the East. It is very seldom brought to this country in a pure state. It is not now so much thought of as a perfume as it was at one time ; it retains its scent for a long time. It is used in medicine and nervous complaints. The skin forms a strong and valuable leather ; the Russians have a method of dressing it so that it is as soft and glossy as silk. The Musk Deer is a light and active animal ; it is about two feet in height at the shoulders. It has no horns, and possesses two long teeth in the upper jaw, which project about an inch on each side of the mouth.

The ROEBUCK was at one time to be found throughout the whole of the British Islands; it is now only to be met with in the rocky glens of Scotland. It is the smallest and most elegant of our British Deer. Its horns are about eight or nine inches long, and divided into three small branches. When hunted, it is very cunning; it will double and turn back upon its scent, then with a bound it will spring to some distance on one side, and lie flat on its belly till the Dogs go past. They do not herd together, and are seldom to be met with in larger numbers than two or three at a time. They will scent a man at a long distance; the usual way of deceiving them is to hold a lighted peat in the hand, as the animals are accustomed to this smell, and are less wary in approaching the spot. Their cry is very like the *baa* of a Sheep, and in still moonlight nights can be heard at a great distance. They do great damage to the corn-fields in the neighborhood of their haunts, feeding entirely in the gray of the morning and evening. Its venison is much sought after, and is considered to be more delicate than that of any other Deer. It is not suited for confinement; for, even when apparently subdued and least suspected, it will sometimes attack a person both with hoofs and horns.

The RED DEER, or STAG, is a noble-looking animal; it is the tallest of the European Deer. It is getting rarer in this country every year, on account of its being hunted so much. It is hunted by large packs of Hounds called Stag-hounds, and the sport is called Deer-stalking. It delights to dwell in the highest mountains and in the thickest forests, and is said to live a very long time. It comes to full growth when five years old, when its horns send forth as many antlers, and it is then called a hart, and the female a hind. Every year the male sheds his horns, and, as if aware that he can not then defend himself, he hides himself till the new ones are hardened. When wearied in the chase it will betake itself to water, and will cross with ease rapid streams. When wounded or taken, it sheds tears like a child. Though so timid, when at bay it often severely punishes the Hounds with its horns. It derives its name of Red Deer from its color, which is a deep reddish-brown in summer, but paler in winter.

The WAPITI is very much larger than our Red Deer; it grows to the height of our largest Oxen. It is found in the deep forests and rocky mountains of Canada and North America. It is often seen in the menageries of this country, and is always an ob-



ROEBUCK—RED DEER—WAPITI.

ject of attraction from the size of its horns, which are nearly six feet from tip to tip. In America, where it is sometimes called an Elk, it is tamed, and is trained to draw sledges. The Wapiti is very fond of salt, and the hunters take advantage of this, and lie in wait for it near the salt-marshes, or "salt-licks," as they are called, knowing it is sure to visit such places. Though the Wapiti is so large an animal, it is not easily distinguished from the trees of the forest; and it requires an experienced eye to detect it. When pursued, it might be supposed that its branching horns would be in its way, but they are not so; the animal lays them on its back, and is able thus to force its way through the thickets with ease. The skin, when dressed, is very useful in making hunting dresses, being soft, firm, and flexible.

The **AXIS DEER** is to be found in Bengal and on the banks of the Ganges. It is beautifully spotted with white. It has been brought to this country, where it has thriven, even in open parks. It is rather larger than our Fallow Deer, and is mild and gentle in temper. Its horns are slender, and are divided into three branches.

The **FALLOW DEER** are very tame, and are sel-

dom to be seen except in gentlemen's parks, where they are a pleasing addition to the landscape, whether they may be reposing in midday under the shady trees, or frisking playfully in the open glade. They live in large herds; one large buck is generally their leader, an honor which he does not arrive at without sundry contests with the other males; but when leader, he does not suffer any except a few favorite does to approach him, and the other bucks scamper away as soon as he makes his appearance. At times the herds will divide and fight furiously for the possession of the best pastures: these contests continue sometimes for several days. They are generally very tame, but there are times when it is dangerous to approach them. If any one does come within the prescribed limits, the buck will instantly charge upon him, and may inflict dangerous wounds. Its flesh is highly esteemed for venison, its skin for leather, and its horns for various purposes.

There are some species of Deer, such as the Great Rusa, an Indian Stag, about three feet in height, which have a full flowing mane on the neck and shoulders, giving them the appearance of a Horse.

The REINDEER is to the Laplander what the

Horse, Cow, and Sheep are to those nations where these animals are met with. It is found in the northern regions of Europe, Asia, and America. It is about four and a half feet high ; and, what is very unusual, it diminishes in warmer climates, and increases in the polar regions. The color of the upper parts is of a dark brown, but toward the winter it becomes gray, and then its coating is so thick that it is hardly possible, by separating the hairs, to see any portion of its naked skin. It is said that this skin is so excellent a covering in cold countries, that any one clothed in it, and having a blanket of the same material, can brave the keenest cold of an arctic winter. The finest Reindeer are found in Lapland and Spitzbergen. The Laplanders reckon their wealth by the number of Reindeer they possess. Some have herds of more than a thousand, and these are considered very wealthy ; those having from three to four hundred are in comfortable circumstances, whereas those who have from fifty to a hundred are obliged to join their animals to those of a richer man, and to do the menial labor themselves. The Reindeer, when very young, is trained to draw sledges over the snow. When grown up its swiftness is amazing ; it will travel with ease ninety miles a day. It does not require any whip to urge it on ; the simple shake of the rein on its back is sufficient to



REINDEER—ELK.

quicken its speed. Its principal food in winter is a kind of lichen which is called Reindeer Moss, which they dig up from beneath the snow with their horns and hoofs; the Laplander considers four pounds a day of this lichen sufficient for each Deer on a journey; but they are very hardy, and much less than that will satisfy them. The female Reindeer, which is horned like the male, furnishes a nourishing milk, from which they make both butter and cheese. Every part of the Reindeer is of some use. Its flesh and blood give nutritious meat; its skin, when prepared, is sewn into coats, and made into coverings for the head, hands, and feet; it is also used to line their tents, and to cover their sledges and beds; its horns form their fish-spears, spoons, and other articles; their sinews supply them with strong thread and bowstrings; their tongues are dried, and sent as delicacies to other countries. So you see that God, in giving to the Laplander the Reindeer, has enabled him to bear the severe hardships to which he is exposed.

The Reindeer is at certain times of the year much annoyed by a gad-fly, which deposits its eggs in its skin, where they are hatched and live as maggots: the trouble occasioned by this insect is

so great that they are obliged to go to the mountains or to the sea-coast to get rid of it.

There are large herds of the Reindeer still wild in Spitzbergen and in North America, where it is eagerly pursued by the Esquimaux, to whom its skin, flesh, and fat are very useful. The hunters shoot them as they are crossing a stream, and those killed are sunk in the river, the ice-cold water preserving the flesh till there is time to cure it for winter use. The flesh is either then dried, smoked, or, should frost set in, frozen. The natives of North America call the Reindeer "Caribou."

The ELK, or MOOSE DEER, is the largest of the Deer family, being noted for its large spreading horns, and for the noble appearance of its whole body. It inhabits the regions to the northeast of America. It is rather a clumsy animal in its movements, and shuffles along in an awkward trot, but with great swiftness. It is easy to tame it when taken young, but when full grown it is very fierce; when wounded it fights desperately with both horns and hoofs. The Indians, whose livelihood depends upon their success in hunting, look to this animal for food and clothing; and if it

should abandon its accustomed haunts, a famine is the consequence, destroying great numbers of that half-civilized people. The Moose is generally caught in winter-time by hunters mounted on snow-shoes, which enable them to skim with ease over the surface of the snow, while the heavy Moose breaks through at every step, and is thus soon wearied out.

The Moose is sometimes tamed, and it has been found to answer very well as a beast of draught. It feeds on fir and beech trees; its flesh is much valued by the Indians. Its skin is tough; and it is said that a regiment of soldiers were furnished with waistcoats made out of its hide which could hardly be penetrated by a ball.

The Moose Deer has immensely long legs, but its neck is very short, so that, by straddling with one foot forward and the other backward, it grazes on the plain ground with great difficulty. It has, however, a lengthened upper lip, and supports itself chiefly by browsing on trees, and by wading after the water-lily and other water-plants, toward which way of getting its food its length of legs and great lip help it very much.

PACHYDERMATOUS,* OR THICK-SKINNED ANIMALS.

THE Pachydermatous Animals are so called from the thickness of the skin with which some of the Order are covered. They do not chew the cud like the Cow and Sheep. They may be divided into three sections: The Horse, the Elephant, and the Pig tribes.

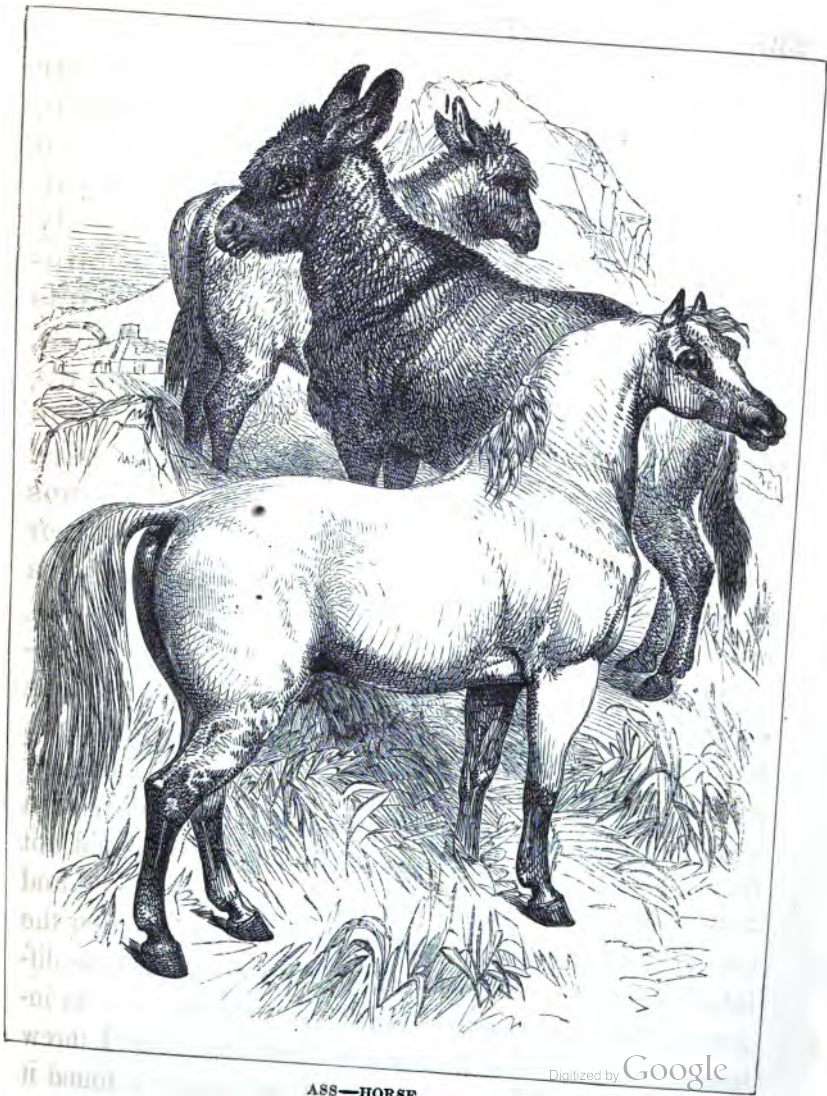
THE HORSE.

The HORSE is the most useful and beautiful of all Quadrupeds. Every where it is the friend of man: it is the most valuable of the domesticated animals. The Arabian Horse is a noble creature; it is a model of grace and beauty. The wealth of the Arab may consist in his flocks and herds, but his pride and power lie in his Horse; and often does his life depend on the speed and powers of endurance of that animal. He treats his Horse as one of the family; it lives in the same tent; and the little children may be seen embracing its neck, or

* *Pachydermata*; from two Greek words, *παχὺς*, *thick*, and *δέρμα*, *skin*.

reposing on its body, without any feeling of fear or danger. The Arab, in his treatment of his Horse, does not allow the whip or the spur to be used. The greatest poverty can not tempt him to part with it, and the highest offers are sometimes even sternly refused. The powers of endurance of these animals are very great. Some of the Arab chiefs keep them for weeks with the saddle on their backs, and sometimes ride them for twenty or thirty hours, resting perhaps for half an hour, and giving them a few handfuls of barley. Some of the most famed of the English race-horses have either been Arabs or have had a mixture of Arabian blood in their veins. An ordinary racer will go at the rate of a mile in two minutes.

When the Emperor Napoleon was at St. Helena, he thus spoke of his own Horse: "I had a Horse which distinguished me from the rest of the world, and which manifested, by his bounding and haughty gait when I was upon his back, that he carried a man superior to those around him. He would not suffer any one to mount him except myself and the groom that took care of him; and when the latter was on his back, his movements were so different that he seemed to know that he was an inferior person. When I had lost my way, I threw the bridle upon his neck, and he always found it



ASS—HORSE.

again, in places where, with all my observation and particular knowledge of the country, I could never have succeeded."

The English draught Horses are said to be the largest and the strongest in the world. The Shetland Pony is very small, sometimes being only thirty-four inches high: it is very hardy and sure-footed. The Flemish and the Danish Horses, from their size and steadiness, are considered to make the best carriage-horses.

In North and South America, herds of wild Horses are met in the extensive prairies. When the natives wish to take them, they sally forth armed with a lazzo, or long leather thong, and soon succeed in taking and breaking in as many as they may require. In many parts of the world Horse-flesh is used very extensively as an article of food.

The Horse has great powers of memory; it never forgets the road it has once traveled; even if years have passed away, and the journey be in the dark, the rider may let the animal have its way, and it will reach in safety the destined spot. A gentleman once rode thirty miles from home on a young Horse which he had bred, and neither he nor the Horse had ever before seen the village to which he was bound. Two years passed over, and he had occasion to repeat the same journey. No one rode

this Horse but himself, and he was perfectly assured that the animal had not since been in that direction. A mile or two before he reached his journey's end he was quite benighted. He had to traverse moor and common, and he could scarcely see his Horse's head. The rain began to pelt. "Well," said he, "here I am, lost—absolutely lost. I know not, nor can I see an inch of my road. I have heard much of the memory of the Horse; it is my only hope now; so there!"—throwing the reins on his Horse's neck—"go on!" In half an hour he was safe at his friend's gate.

Horses, if properly treated, would live from forty to fifty years; but they are seldom permitted to live half that time, so cruelly are they treated by him whom they so willingly and faithfully serve.

The Ass from the earliest times has been of the greatest service to man. We read in the Bible that the patriarchs Abram and Job possessed great herds of Asses. They are found at the present day in large bands in a wild state in the central deserts of Asia, each band directed by a chief.

Every one knows the Ass by its long ears, its tail ending in a tuft, and its peculiar bray. It is generally called a dull, stupid, obstinate animal; yet

when it is kindly treated it is an affectionate and a most patient creature. In the East, where it is treated very differently from the way it is in this country, we find it an elegant animal, with a good action and a smooth coat. And even here, when young, it is sprightly and playful; and we may therefore set down the bad qualities of the Ass to the cruel treatment it too often receives from its owner. An old man, who a few years ago sold vegetables in London, used in his employment an Ass, which conveyed his baskets from door to door. Frequently he gave the poor industrious creature a handful of hay, or a piece of bread, or greens, by way of refreshment and reward. He had no need of any goad for the animal, and seldom indeed had he to lift up his hand to drive it on. His kind treatment was one day remarked to him, and he was asked whether his beast were apt to be stubborn. "Ah! master," replied he, "it is of no use to be cruel; and as for stubbornness, I can not complain, for he is ready to do any thing and go any where. I bred him myself. He is sometimes skittish and playful, and once ran away from me; you will hardly believe it, but there were more than fifty people after him, yet he turned back of himself, and never stopped till he ran his head kindly into my bosom."



DZIGGUETAI—QUAGGA—ZEBRA.



To the poor man the Ass is very useful. It bears fatigue and hunger with patience; it will work early and late, and is easily satisfied with a few brambles, thistles, or dried herbs. The milk of the Ass is of great service to sick people.

The Wild Ass is found in Persia and the deserts of Tartary. It is called **DZIGGUETAI**. It is a slender and elegant-looking creature. It is so fleet that the swiftest Horses can not come up to it. It is of a cream color, with a black mane. Its flesh is highly valued by the Persians, who consider it one of their chief delicacies.

The **MULE** is a mixed breed between the Ass and the Horse. We do not see it very often in this country, but it is of the greatest use in Spain and in South America. It is an obstinate creature, yet it is so sure-footed that it can carry burdens where no carriage could pass, or no Horse could keep its feet. A train of loaded Mules will go in safety in a long line over a narrow path with a wall on one side and a precipice so deep on the other that it makes the traveler tremble even to look at it.

The **ZEBRA** is found in the south of Africa. It

lives in troops, and shuns the dwellings of men. It is known by the dark stripes with which its whole body is covered. This beautiful creature is very wild and fleet. It has been said that it could not be tamed; but, in spite of its vicious habits, some Zebras have been taught to draw a carriage, but, when broken in, they have entirely lost their free spirit, and assumed the humble bearing of the common Donkey.

The QUAGGA is also found in South Africa. It derives its name from the peculiar sound of its shrill, barking neigh. It is not so graceful an animal as the Zebra, to which it bears some resemblance; but the stripes are not so deeply marked, and its hind-quarters are rather higher than the shoulders. It is, however, more useful to the natives, who employ it as a beast of draught, and its flesh is much relished by them.

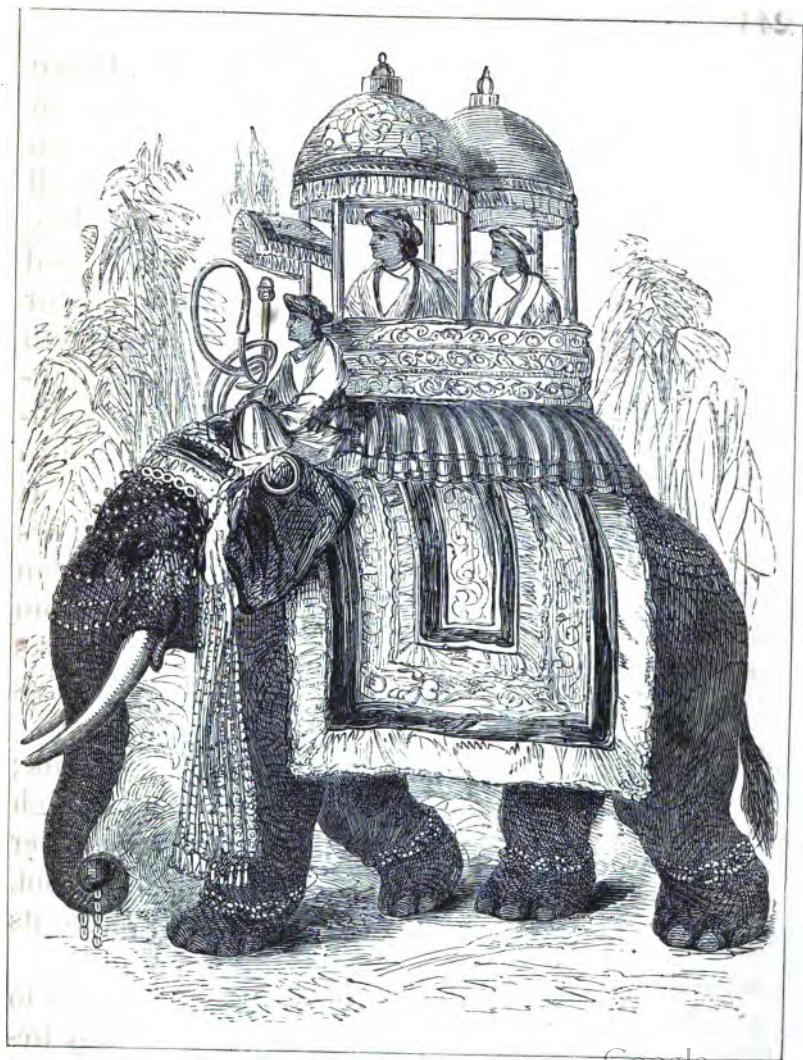
THE ELEPHANT.

The ELEPHANT is the largest of the Quadrupeds; it is from eight to twelve feet in height, ten to fifteen feet in length, and from five to seven thousand pounds in weight. Its large form, its immense

trunk, and its ivory tusks, are familiar to all. There are two kinds of this animal known—the Indian and the African. They may be distinguished by the size of their ears: the Indian Elephant has small ears, while the African has very large ones. The neck is short and thick, and it is therefore prevented from putting its head to the ground or stooping for water. To make amends for this, it is gifted with a proboscis, or trunk. This trunk is a kind of lengthened nose; it is composed of no less than forty thousand small muscles, which enable the Elephant to move it with the greatest ease in any direction. It ends with an appendage like a finger, which answers every purpose of a hand. With it the Elephant can do most wonderful acts; it picks up the smallest pin or lifts the heavy cannon, unties knots or uncorks a bottle, opens or shuts doors, carries its food to its mouth, or fills it with water to quench its thirst.

The Elephant takes great care of its trunk; when it charges the Tiger it always lifts it as high above its head as it can. On one occasion a soldier inflicted a sword-cut upon the trunk of an Elephant, and from that time, as it could put nothing into its mouth, it was necessary for men to feed it.

The tusks of the Elephant are of great service to man; it is from them that we get ivory. They fre-



ELEPHANT.

quently grow to a large size—the largest, which was sold in Amsterdam, weighed three hundred and fifty pounds; and one is mentioned as having been more than fourteen feet in length. Great quantities of ivory are used in England for making handles to knives, billiard-balls, and numerous other articles. In the town of Sheffield the value of the ivory consumed there every year is very great, and five hundred persons are employed in working it up for purposes of trade. The greatest amount of ivory is brought from South and West Africa, and Ceylon.

The general color of the Elephant is a dark brown, but some, though very rarely, have been found of a white color. The people of the kingdom of Siam think very highly of a white Elephant, and the king reckons among his highest titles that of “King of the White Elephant.” Sometimes the nation is divided into two parts, who contend for the possession of this White Elephant, and many battles have been fought, and many lives have been lost, before it could be settled to which of them it belonged. It is regarded by the poor Siamese as a god; it is lodged in a splendid palace, has one hundred attendants to wait upon it; and it has its food, which consists of gilded grain, served up in golden plates. When it goes to the river to wash, a cano-

py of cloth of silver and gold is carried over it by six or eight men. When it has come out of the river, a gentleman appointed by the king washes its feet in a silver basin.

The African Elephant has not yet been tamed, but the Asiatic kind has ever been of great service to man. In former times Elephants were used in battle; and we can easily fancy the terror that would be caused by a charge of these enormous animals. But they were frequently as dangerous to their own side as to those to whom they were opposed. For the soldiers, having found out how delicate the trunk was, aimed their javelins and spears at that part, which was certain to cause the Elephants to turn their backs and flee away, doing great damage to their own friends.

The hunters, when they wish to capture the wild Elephants, take with them two tame female ones. These mingle with the herd of wild Elephants, and manage so to occupy the attention of some of the male ones that the hunters are able to come near and tie a rope round their legs. The females, having thus gained their end, leave the animals to kick and plunge until they are so weakened with fatigue and hunger that the hunters have little difficulty in driving them home, where they soon are taught to make themselves useful.

In a wild state Elephants always travel in large herds; the strongest males acting as leaders, the females and their young being placed in the midst. In passing through the forest they bear down all before them, tearing up the largest trees, whose roots, with herbs and leaves, are their usual food.

Elephants are very fond of sweetmeats and *arrack*, a spirituous liquor made from rice. They have howdahs, or carriages placed on their backs, which can hold several persons; they are used for purposes of state and as beasts of burden.

Though the Elephant is of such an immense size, yet it is the most gentle, docile, and affectionate of animals; it soon knows and loves its keeper, and seems to understand every word that is said to it. Many anecdotes are told of the sagacity of the Elephant.

During the siege of Pondicherry in the East Indies by the British army, there were in the French garrison several war Elephants, all of which, from the scarcity of provisions, except one, died; and the survivor would have shared the fate of his companions but for his uncommon sagacity, which had rendered him the favorite of every one and the object of general admiration. This animal, in the absence of his keeper, was one day amusing him-

self with his chain in an open part of the town, when a man who had committed a theft, and was pursued by a great number of people, despairing of all other means of safety, drew for protection under the belly of the Elephant. Delighted with the poor wretch's confidence, the Elephant instantly faced about to the crowd, erected his trunk and threw his chain in the air, as is the manner of these creatures when engaged with the enemy, and became so furious in the defense of the criminal, that, notwithstanding all the gentle arts made use of by the surrounding multitude, neither they nor even his keeper, to whom he was fondly attached, and who was sent for to manage him, could prevail upon him to give the man up. The contest had continued above three hours, when at length the governor, hearing the strange account of it, came to the spot, and was so much pleased with the generous perseverance of the honest quadruped, that he yielded to the Elephant's interposition and pardoned the criminal. The poor man, in his gratitude, kissed and embraced the trunk of his friend, who was, apparently, so sensible of what had happened, that, laying aside all his former violence, he became perfectly tame in an instant, and suffered his keeper to conduct him away without the smallest resistance.

At the siege of Bhurtpoor in 1805, the British army had been for a long time before the city, when, on the approach of the dry season, the ponds and tanks were exhausted, and no more water was left for the use of the troops, the camp-followers, and cattle, than the wells of the country would furnish. Hence no little confusion took place at the wells in procuring the requisite supply. On one occasion, two Elephant-drivers, each with his Elephant, one large and strong, the other small and weak, were at the well together. The small Elephant had been furnished by his master with a bucket, which he carried at the end of his trunk; but the larger one, not being provided with the necessary utensil, seized the bucket of his less powerful fellow-servant. The latter felt the insult deeply, though he knew that he was too weak to resent it. At length the smaller animal, watching his opportunity, when the other was standing with his side to the well, stepped backward a few paces in a very quiet manner, and then, rushing forward with all his might, drove his head against the side of the other, and tumbled him into the well. For the sake of the supply of water, it was necessary to get the huge animal out; but, as the surface of the water was nearly twenty feet below the mouth of the well, it was evident that this

object could not be accomplished by force. There were many feet of water beneath the Elephant, who, floating with ease, and pleased with his cool retreat, showed little disposition to exert himself to get out. At length it occurred to the keeper that a sufficient number of the fascines (bundles of wood) employed in the siege might be lowered into the well to make a pile, which might be raised to the top, if the animal could be instructed to lay them under his feet. This lesson, therefore, he had first to teach the Elephant, who soon comprehended what was required, and began quickly to place each fascine as it was lowered to him, until he was enabled to stand upon them. By this time, however, the cunning brute, who had enjoyed the coolness of his situation, finding himself raised above the water, refused to work any longer, and all the threats of his keeper could not induce him to place another fascine. The man then opposed cunning to cunning: he began to caress and praise the Elephant, and promised him plenty of arrack. Incited by this prospect of reward, the animal again fell to work, and raised himself considerably higher, until, by a partial removal of the masonry, he was enabled to step out. The whole affair occupied about fourteen hours.

The TAPIR is found in the forests of South America. It sleeps by day, and at night seeks its food, which consists of grass, watermelons, and other vegetables. It is very fond of the leaves of the coca plants, and does great damage to the cultivated fields, often destroying in the course of a night what has cost some poor Indian the labor of a year. It is a strong animal; and, when prowling about, it never takes a beaten road, but breaks and pushes its way with its head and shoulders through every thing in its path. Its skin is very thick, in some parts several inches; so, when the Jaguar pounces upon it, the Tapir rushes headlong through the thickest part of the wood until it forces its fierce enemy to let go its hold. It is quite at home in water, and can cross with ease the largest rivers and lakes; it is said, when alarmed, to dive down to the bottom, and to be able to walk about there for some time.

The Tapir has a long snout, somewhat like the shortened trunk of an Elephant, which is very useful to it in digging up roots from the ground. There is a variety found in Sumatra and in the peninsula of Malaya which is rather larger than the American. It is known by the grayish-white color of its back. The female is larger than the male.

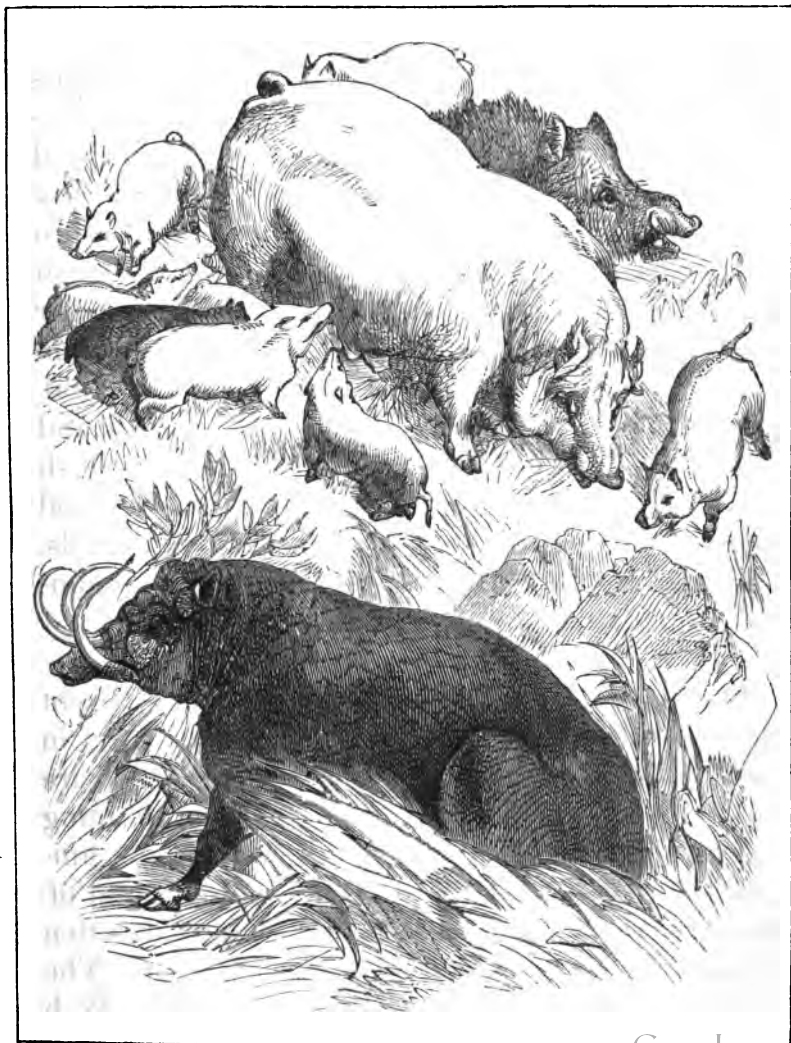


AMERICAN AND INDIAN TAPIRS.

254 *The Common Hog and Wild Boar.*

The COMMON HOG is so well known that it does not need to be described. Though it is an awkward-looking animal, grubbing ever in the dirt and wallowing in the mud, yet it is not that dirty, filthy creature that some people persist in calling it. No animal seems more to enjoy a clean sty and fresh straw than the Hog. It is a great boon to the poor man, it being content with the refuse of food; and after death its flesh forms most excellent food. When fresh, this is called pork; when salted and cured, bacon. If fed well and kept clean, the flesh is delicate and exceedingly sweet. Its skin is used for leather, and its bristles for brushes and pencils. The Sow is very fertile, bringing forth a great number of little Pigs at a litter.

The WILD BOAR may be regarded as the parent stock of our Common Hog; it is still found in many countries; it has long, sharp tusks, which are formidable weapons of attack. Wild-boar hunting is a favorite sport in those places where these animals are found. It is hunted with a small kind of Mastiff. When brought to bay, the Dogs are often severely punished if they approach too near. The hunters finish it off with their spears. The flesh is highly esteemed, especially the hams.



BOAR—SOW AND PIGS—BABYROUSSA.

The **BABYROUSSA**, or **INDIAN HOG**, is found in the islands in the Indian Ocean. Its name is derived from two Malay words—*babi*, hog, and *rusa*, wild. The male is noted for possessing four tusks, two proceeding from the upper jaw, through a hole in the skin, and two from the lower. It looks a fierce creature, but in disposition it is not so, though, if it can not escape from its pursuers, it will plant itself against a tree and fight desperately. It is said that when it goes to rest it hitches its tusks over a branch, and sleeps standing. It lives in herds, and when near any settlement does great damage to the maize-fields. It is an excellent swimmer, and often thus escapes its pursuers.

The **PECCARY** is a native of South America; as it is marked with a white narrow collar on the shoulders, it is generally called the "Collared" Peccary. These animals are met with in families of eight or ten. They grub in the soil for roots, worms, and insects, and are frequently seen in marshy places. They are not so fertile as the Sow, having only a single young one at a birth, very rarely two. They are about eighteen inches high; but, though they are so little, they are as much to be dreaded as the Jaguar. They seem to

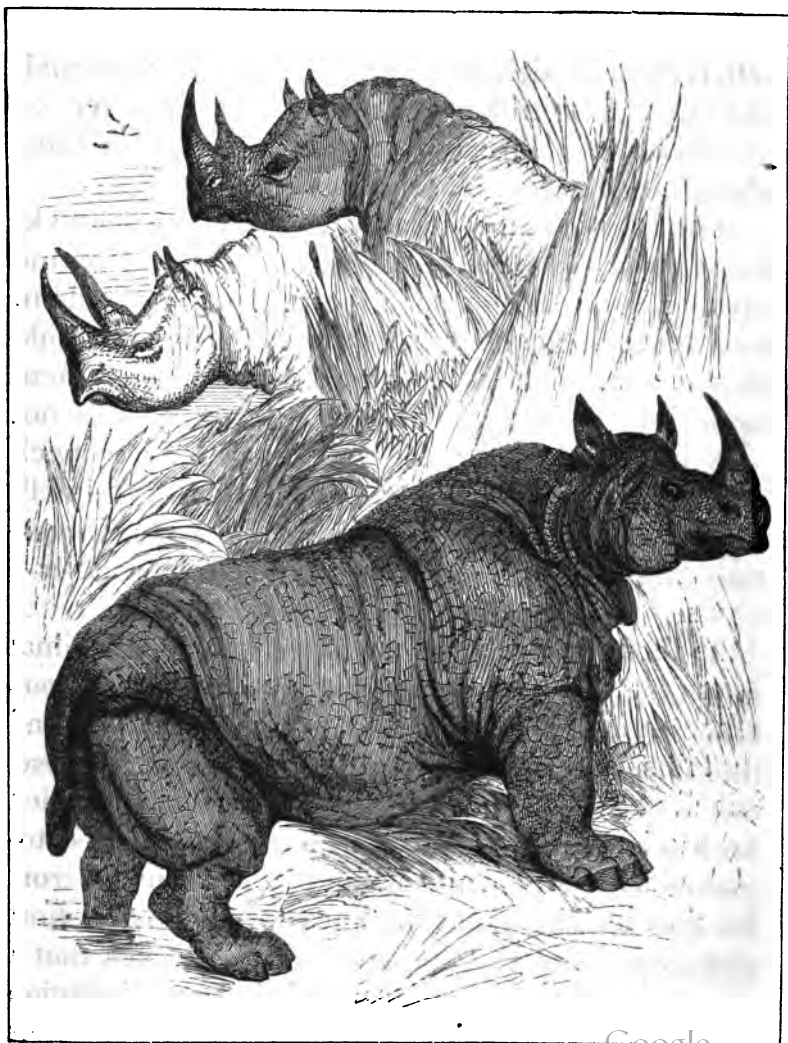
have no sense of fear; they will attack any object in their way, and will fight till the last one of their number is slain. They are armed with tusks, sharp at the edges, and which are capable of inflicting severe wounds from the force with which the animal impels them. When, therefore, the traveler meets a family of Peccaries, men, dogs, and horses are glad to flee to a place of safety, as even the horses would soon be crippled, and their legs be cut to pieces. Although they are so small, they can run very fast. They choose as their sleeping-places hollow logs, in which they enter backward, so that the last of the troop stands with its nose at the entrance. The planter, desiring revenge for the havoc committed by these animals on his stock, conceals himself at night near the log; and waits with patience the coming morn. As soon as the day dawns, he sees the protruding snout of the Peccary who acts as sentinel. Without noise, the rifle is raised—an explosion is heard—and forthwith, with a spring, the Peccary leaps out of the hole, and is soon dead. Immediately another Peccary is advanced as sentinel, who shares the fate of the first victim; and so on, one following another, till the whole troop are slain. Sometimes the hunter is careless, and makes a noise among the canes

where he lies hidden; then the whole of them rush out upon him, and, if he can not reach a tree or some place of safety, dire is their revenge for their slaughtered companions.

The Peccary can swim across rivers, but it is awkward in the water, where they are sure to become an easy prey to the watchful Indian, who kills them by a blow on the nose. As the body does not sink, they can kill as many as they please, and pick them up at their leisure. They eat its flesh, but it is not very much relished, as by the long hair of the back is concealed a gland which contains a strong-smelling fluid. The Indians are very particular in cutting away this gland and all the flesh around it.

The RHINOCEROS is a large, awkward animal found in Asia and Africa. It is like a monstrous Hog, except that the Asiatic kind has one horn, and the African two, in a line projecting from the nose, one larger and the other smaller. This so-called horn is composed of a mass of fibres matted together, very like whalebone, but as hard as iron. Its eyes are small and sparkling; its limbs are short and stout; and its skin is so hard and thick that it can resist the stroke of a sword, or turn a common musket ball; it can only be penetrated by bullets hardened with solder. It always lives near marshes

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TWO-HORNED AND ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROSES.

and rivers ; it delights in wallowing in the mud and swimming in the water.

There are in Africa four varieties of the Rhinoceros, some of them black, and others white ; some with one horn, and others with two. The Keitloa is the name given to the two-horned black Rhinoceros. The black ones are the most dangerous, as they will rush headlong at any object which attracts their notice. They will attack large bushes in a most violent manner, and will plow up the ground with their horns for several yards. They will charge at these bushes for hours at a time, and will not leave them till they have broken them to pieces.

During the day the Rhinoceros is to be seen lying asleep, or standing lazily in some retired part of the forest, sheltered from the rays of the sun by the overspreading trees. In the evening they commence rambling about. They usually visit the fountains between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock at night ; and it is then, and at these places, that the hunters are on the watch for them.

The horn of the white Rhinoceros is often above four feet in length, and inclines forward from the nose.

Travelers have often asserted that certain little birds constantly attend the Rhinoceros, and give it notice of any approaching danger ; this was not

credited ; but we find it borne out by what Cumming saw when he was hunting the Rhinoceros in South Africa. He says : “ Before I could reach the proper distance to fire, several ‘ Rhinoceros birds,’ by which he was attended, warned him of his impending danger by sticking their bills into his ear, and uttering their harsh, grating cry. Thus aroused, he suddenly sprang to his feet, and crashed away through the jungle at a rapid trot, and I saw no more of him. These Rhinoceros birds are constant attendants upon the Hippopotamus and the Rhinoceros, their object being to feed upon the insects that swarm upon these animals. They are of a grayish color, and are nearly as large as a common Thrush : their voice is very similar to that of the Mistletoe Thrush. Many a time have these ever-watchful birds disappointed me in my stalk. They are the best friends the Rhinoceros has ; they rarely fail to awaken him, even in his soundest nap.”

The horn of the Rhinoceros is solid throughout, and drinking-cups, mallets for rifles, and other articles are made from it. At one time it was thought that goblets made of the horn were a security against poison ; and the Indian kings were in the habit of having their wine served up in these goblets, as they supposed that if any poison were in the

cup it would split to pieces. The blood and the horns have been used as medicines. Of the skin rough whips and shields are made in South Africa. The flesh is cut into long strips and dried on branches of trees: it is preferred to beef. The upper lip has a prehensile power, with which it can grasp the herbage on which it feeds, or take up small pieces of biscuit from the ground.

The HIPPOPOTAMUS is only to be found in Africa. The word Hippopotamus means a "river-horse," and we find it always by the side of rivers; it was at one time very abundant in the River Nile. Next to the Elephant, it is the largest of Quadrupeds; it is sometimes above seventeen feet long from the end of the snout to the beginning of the tail, and sixteen feet round the body. The head is large, and the muzzle broad and swollen. The body is very massive, the belly almost reaching to the ground; the legs short and thick. If undisturbed, this animal is shy and harmless; but on one occasion, a boat having grazed the back of one, it was attacked by the brute open-mouthed, who tore out several planks with its powerful teeth, and it was with great difficulty that the party reached the shore. It can remain a long time with its head under water, only putting up its great nose every



HIPPOPOTAMUS.

ten minutes to breathe with a loud snort. It is during the night that this animal feeds ; it lives on roots and other vegetable substances. It crops the grass and small shrubs around the bank as closely as if they had been mown, and it will devour as much grass as would satisfy a herd of our Cows.

The flesh of the Hippopotamus is said to be very like pork. The tusks are used as ivory; and as they are hard, and do not lose their beautiful whiteness, they are in great demand by dentists for making teeth.

The skin is upward of an inch and a half in thickness, and, not being very flexible, it is dragged from the ribs in strips like the planks from a ship's side. It is only when the animal rises to take breath that the sportsman can take aim at it ; they are only to be wounded behind the ear or in the eye.

The Hippopotamus was, in the time of the Roman emperors, exhibited in the great displays of wild beasts which were presented to the people. But for nearly fifteen hundred years it was not seen in Europe ; at length the Council of the Zoological Gardens determined to attempt to get one of these huge creatures from Africa. The Viceroy of Egypt was ready to render them any assistance they might require. In the month of July, 1849, a party of hunters, who had been specially sent on this service, suc-

ceeded in capturing a calf of some three days old on the island of Obaysch, in the White Nile. When found among the reeds, where its mother had placed it, the Hippopotamus, which now weighs upward of four tons, was so small that the chief huntsman took it up in his arms to carry it to the boat from which his men had landed. The calf, however, was covered with a coat of slime more slippery than that of any fish, and glided from his grasp, and struggled to get to the river. The huntsman, quicker than it, struck into its side the gaff-hook fastened at the end of his spear, and held it fast: the scar is still to be seen. It was safely conveyed by the hunters from Obaysch to Cairo, a distance of eighteen hundred miles. It was shipped on board the steamer Ripon, where every precaution had been taken for its safe keeping. The milk of two Cows and ten Goats was entirely devoted to its support; but this not proving sufficient, it was fed with Indian corn-meal. It arrived in this country on the 25th of May, 1850, and from that time to this has been a source of great attraction to the Gardens. In the year 1853, a youthful companion named "Adhela" was given to it.

The Hippopotamus is supposed to be the animal called Behemoth in the book of Job.

EDENTATES, OR TOOTHLESS ANIMALS.

WE now come to the last Order, which is called Edentates,* some of the tribes of which, such as Ant-eaters and Pangolins, have no teeth at all, and others, such as the Sloth and Armadillo, have very small and peculiar teeth.

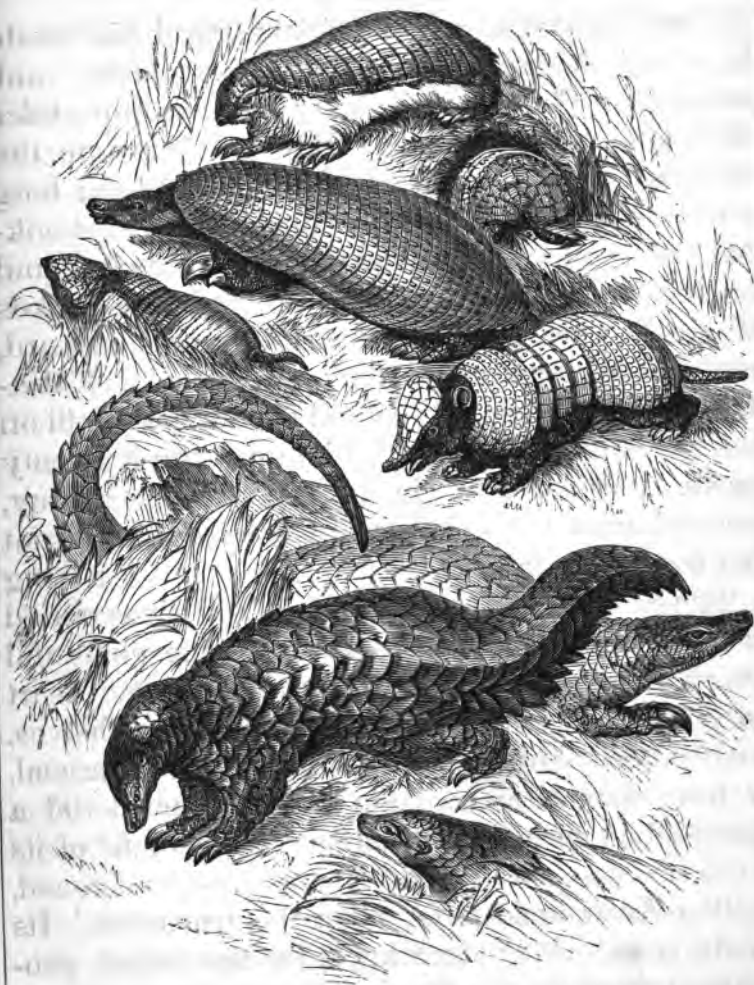
The SLOTH, or AI, as it is called from its sad, plaintive cry, *a-i*, is found in the extensive forests of South America. The poor Sloth has been called all kinds of bad names; it has been described as lazy and helpless, as climbing a tree with great labor, and there remaining till it had consumed all the leaves and bark; and, when fairly starved out, falling heavily on the ground, and there remaining till such time as it crawled to the nearest tree, when it went through the same round. Now all this is false; the Sloth is neither lazy nor helpless; those who have described it in this manner could never have seen it in its native forests, for no animal is so well fitted

* *Edentata*: from *e*, without, and *dens*, a tooth.



SLOTH—GREAT AND LESSER ANT-EATERS.

for the life it leads as the Sloth. God has made it to live on trees from its birth to its death; and, what is very strange, not *on* the branches, but *under* them; it moves, rests, and sleeps resting from the boughs. To adapt it for this mode of life, its long and powerful fore legs are furnished with hook-like nails, which curve around the branches, and enable it to hang with ease. Of course, this makes walking on the ground very difficult and awkward, and it is hardly able to shuffle along at all. Waterton, the traveler, on one occasion saw a Sloth on the ground, and, though trees were within twenty yards, and it seemed as if it had time to get away, yet so unused was it to the ground that it could not manage to escape. Waterton then took a long stick and held it for it to hook on, and then carried it to a tall tree, which it climbed with wonderful rapidity, and was soon lost to sight in the heart of the forest. Its food consists chiefly of leaves, buds, and fruits, and as it is a ruminating animal, it has four stomachs. Its flesh is considered a great delicacy by the Indians. The joints of its neck are so many that it can turn its head round, and look behind it as it hangs suspended. Its body is covered with long, thick hair, which protects it from the insects.



ARMADILLOES—PANGOLINS.

The PANGOLIN, or SCALY ANT-EATER, is found in Asia and Africa. It has no teeth. Its body is covered with large scales, lying on each other like tiles on the top of a house. These scales are formed of hardened hairs; and when attacked, the animal rolls itself into a ball, wraps its tail round it, and raises the whole array of its scales. Its tongue is very long and slender, and furnished with a kind of glue-like secretion. They live on ants and termites, or white ants, as they are called. These white ants build very high and strong nests, which the Pangolin digs into with its powerful legs and claws. It then thrusts in its tongue, which is soon covered with the ants, and at once drawn back, and the ants swallowed.

The Short-tailed Pangolin, or Manis, lives chiefly in the neighborhood of rocks, in the clefts of which it takes refuge, and rears its young. It is very common in India. It is about four feet in length. The Hindoos are said to value the scales of these animals as useful in many diseases. The Long-tailed species is widely scattered in Africa.

The ARMADILLO is found in the warm regions of America. It is remarkable for the armor with which it is clothed. Its shell is composed of sev-

eral scales of a square shape, united together by transverse movable bands. Its food consists of ants, worms, roots, and small snakes. The Giant Armadillo is said to feed on the carcasses of the Buffaloes which are slaughtered by hunters for their skins. The Armadillo burrows in the ground, its strong claws enabling it to dig with great ease and quickness. It can only be driven from its hole by fire or water. When hunted and closely pressed, it tries to escape by burrowing quickly in the ground; and when once in a hole, it can hold so fast by pressing the scales against the sides that it is very difficult to drag it out. Sometimes it will curl itself into a ball, and if near a precipice it will roll itself over. Its flesh is highly esteemed by the Indians, who are very patient and persevering in hunting it.

The GREAT ANT-EATER is a native of South America. It lives, as its name implies, on ants, which in South America are very plentiful. The Ant-eater has claws like a garden-rake, and with these it digs up the ant-hills, and when the ants rush out to see what is the matter or to defend themselves, it thrusts its long, thread-like tongue, covered with a glutinous substance, into their midst, thousands of them.

adhering to it, who are at once swallowed. This action is done so rapidly that the Ant-eater will thrust forth and withdraw its tongue twice in a second. When it sleeps it covers itself with its long bushy tail, and looks so much like a bundle of hay that any one might pass it, mistaking it for a heap of that substance. It defends itself like a Bear, standing on its hind legs and using its fore paws, with which it is said at times to overcome the Jaguar; it is easily destroyed by a blow on its long soft snout. Though it lives in the woods, it never climbs trees. A species called the LESSER ANT-EATER, however, does, and clings to the tree with its long prehensile tail. This species has a strong musky odor which is very offensive. The natives call it Caguare, which means "stinking animal of the wood."

The ORNITHORHYNCHUS, or DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS, is a native of Australia; and of all the curious productions of that island, this animal is one of the most remarkable. In its body it is like a Mole or small Otter; in its tail, a Beaver; while its head ends in a beak like a Duck, and its feet are webbed. When it was first sent over to Europe, it was thought that some impostor had fastened the beak

of a Duck on to the head of some unknown animal. In Australia it is called a Water Mole, and is found for the most part in streams where the steep banks afford it a proper spot to make its burrows. In these streams they may be seen swimming about, their dark bodies being level with the surface. It disappears at the slightest noise, swimming and diving with the greatest ease. Its food consists of water insects and shell-fish. Its burrows are very long. Some have been found fifty feet in length, but generally they are about twenty-five. While digging it makes use of both its beak and its claws, and it is able to fold back the webbed membrane of its feet and work like a Mole. At the end of a long passage is a large cell or nest comfortably lined with leaves. It is hatched from eggs before birth, and supported by a milky fatty fluid, which floats to the surface of the water, and which the young animal sucks with its duck-like beak. When tired the young one climbs on the back of the mother, who carries it to the shore and there caresses it.

Mr. Bennet attempted to rear two of these singular creatures. He kept them alive for about five weeks, allowing them to run about the room; they were as frolicsome and as fond of play as puppies.

Their food consisted of bread soaked in water, chopped egg, and meat minced very small. The natives are very fond of the flesh when young. The male has a spur on its hind feet.

The Ornithorhyncus forms a connecting link between the **QUADRUPEDS** and the **BIRDS**.



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